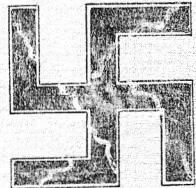


After Action Report

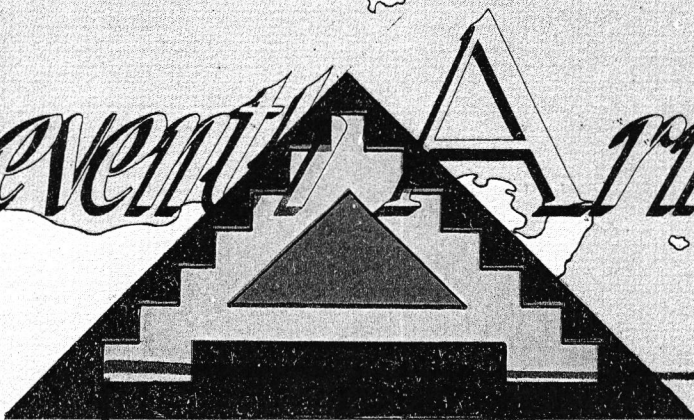
ANNEX Number 26 . Berlin

Period 1 JAN - 15 JAN 1945



UNITED STATES

Seventh Army



G-2

CANCELLED

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
Henry J. Saffin
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE 27 May 1946

C O N F I D E N T I A LHEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
APO 758 US ARMYCopy No. 26Ref. No. X-7G-2 REPORTFrom: 312400A Dec 44
To : 012400A Jan 45Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
020600A January 1945

No. 140.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
b. Units In Contact.

(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.256th VG Div.Elms 456th GRElms 481st GRElms 476th GR559th Div.1127th Regt.2nd Bn2nd Bn17th SS P.G. Div.37th SS PG Regt.38th SS PG Regt.19th Div.73rd Regt.74th Regt.36th Div.Elms 87th Regt.Elms 118th Regt.Elms 165th Regt.21st Pz. Div. - located ZWEIBRUCKEN - RIMLING (Q-6555) area
(according to usually reliable source).347th Div.Elms 860th Regt.361st Div.Elms 952nd GRSE BITCHE.

- 44th Div. sector.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

In southern zone enemy remained generally quiet. Mortar and arty fire fell during night vic RIXHEIM (V-7404) followed by enemy patrols which were repulsed. Enemy patrols repulsed vic KEMBS (A-8598), ILE NAPOLEON (V-7408) and vic THANN (V-5312). Some vehicular traffic including armor observed moving N from UFFHOLTZ (V-5812) to WATTWILLER (V-5815). In northern zone enemy reported generally quiet. Patrol activity vic HOLNET (V-5844), PAIRIS (V-5446) and CHAPELLE (V-5946). Harassing arty fire fell vic SIGOLSHEIM (V-6748) and KIENTZHEIM (V-6548).

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

During early hours of morning enemy opened large scale attack along general line NEUNHOFFEN (Q-9146)-BANNSTEIN (Q-8345)-BITCHE (Q-7750)-SARREGUEMINES (Q-5056). Enemy attacks SW of VOLKLINGEN (Q-3673) reported late in previous period subsided and had the appearance of a holding action. In latter half of period enemy did not exert much pressure this area. In area S and E of FORBACH (Q-3865) enemy remained quiet during period. Heavy pressure continued throughout on W flank of VI Corps along line NEUNHOFFEN-OBERSTEINBACH (Q-9548). Enemy apparently made breakthrough in BANNSTEIN region as an Air OP reported an estimated 500 enemy foot troops moving SW from Q-8142 at 1515A. Situation obscure in region S of BITCHE (Q-7750) at this writing. Enemy infiltrated into DAMBACH (Q-9244) and fighting continues in BAERENTHAL (Q-8342). Estimated 50 enemy tanks in region of ERCHING (Q-6557).

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

During evening enemy made three attempted crossings of BLIES river vic Q-5559 and succeeded in getting one company across river by 2400A. E of SCHONAU (R-0051) to RHINE river enemy remained generally inactive.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

Enemy continued generally quiet in XX Corps zone. Considerable enemy air activity reported.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps zone considerable armor activity on left flank. 4 to 10 tanks observed vic NEUNHOFFEN (Q-9146) during morning. At 0925A PW reports 10 enemy tanks same area. One SP observed moving vic Q-9146. At 1130A an enemy armor column reported vic Q-9144. At 1140A two enemy tanks vic Q-9146. At 1150A enemy tank reported vic Q-9146. At 1200A 2 enemy tanks reported vic Q-9147. At 1230A 2 enemy halftracks vic Q-9948. At 1240A 2 enemy halftracks vic Q-9548. At 1415A 2 enemy tanks vic Q-9147 and 4 tanks vic Q-9146. At 1420A 5 or 6 enemy tanks observed moving SE out of BITCHE (Q-7750). At 1810A 2 tanks heard vic Q-9146. Most reports indicate presence of about 10 tanks vic NEUNHOFFEN (Q-9146). Unconfirmed PW report of 70 tanks unloaded somewhere N of BITCHE, also unconfirmed is Air OP report of 70 enemy tanks on train moving toward BITCHE.

On XV Corps front 8 tanks reported vic Q-6457 at 0940A. 5 tanks reported vic Q-6460 at 1540A. A concentration of armor reported vic ERCHING (Q-6557) at 1240A. 2 tanks vic Q-7845 at 1845A.

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps: Though the enemy broke the lull in operations by his attack in the mountains on our left, arty activity increased only moderately over most of front. His attack apparently was not strongly supported by arty, due very probably to nature of terrain, thus on whole, arty fire varied from light to moderate. On eastern part of Corps front, the enemy was most active during night, especially after dark and around midnight when he harassed our infantry in woods W of OBER-OTTERBACH (R-1752), also S of SCHWEIGHOFFEN (R-1849), and particularly the WISSEMBOURG (R-1548) area at midnight where approx 50 rds fell. Except for 30 rds harassing fire vic RIEDESELTZ (R-1543) in early morning, shelling in the E was generally light, fire falling vic BRENNELBACH (R-1143), KAPSWEYER (R-2049), SCHWEIGHOFEN, STEINSELTZ (R-1445) and S of WISSEMBOURG. The enemy supported his attack in the W by light calibers mostly, shelling our infantry positions, CP's and one battery position, with most of fire directed into DAMBACH (Q-9244), and BAERENTHAL (Q-8342) areas. During afternoon very little fire reported in 79th Div. sector and considerable reduction also occurred in W.

XV Corps: Enemy arty was very active in 100th Div. sector with only slight activity reported over rest of Corps zone. Most of the activity consisted of harassing fires of 6 to 8 rds along all forward elements of 100th Div. In 106th Cav. Gp sector, GIESLAUTERN (Q-3471) and vic was shelled with 80 rds of mixed calibers at 0625A. No activity was reported in 103rd sector. In 44th Div. sector road vic Q-5358 was shelled by 12 rds estimated 105 mm at 1000A. An OP vic Q-5156 was harassed by 20 rds at 1030A. Scattered shelling of 5 to 10 rds were reported in other areas on Div. front. In 100th Div. sector the CR vic Q-6850 was interdicted around 0120A with 22 rds. 40 unestimated calibers nebelwerfer fire reported vic RIMLING (Q-6555) at 0840A. BETTVILLER (Q-6753) shelled with 25 rds at 1150A. 30 rds fell in vic Q-6654 at 1250A. Road vic Q-6652 interdicted from 1220A to 1300A. Many other forward areas were shelled by 6 to 8 rds between 1000A and 1400A and then all activity ceased in this sector after an intensive counter battery shoot.

(3) Aviation.

Enemy continued active in the air with 20 plus a/c over the front during period. Two hostile a/c vic REDING (Q-5317) early in period. During morning, 1 ME-109 strafing and 2 FW-190's vic BITCHE (Q-7750). Also in morning 3 ME-210's, 2 JU-88's, an undetermined number of ME-109's and FW-190's reported vic R-1535. One P-47 believed enemy-manned strafing vic LEMBERG (Q-7344) and 2 ME-109's reported vic BINING (Q-6448). One ME-109 vic Q-3268.

C O N F I D E N T I A L(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In RHINE sector enemy patrol taken under fire vic BISCHWILLER (R-0818) and 2 enemy observed vic KURTZENHAUSEN (R-0515). In 79th Div. zone enemy activity negligible. Some enemy groups vic R-2152 and R-2252 fired on by friendly arty. Enemy traffic reported moving N from vic R-1955 at 1125A. In 45th Div. sector activity increased vic NEUNHOFFEN (Q-9146) where enemy patrols probed forward positions early in period. This activity culminated in a bn size attack at 0515A. 10 tanks, 200 enemy and HD vehicles observed in vic of town at 0815A denoting enemy buildup in this general area. Infiltration attempts continued vic DAMBACH (Q-9244) and OBERSTEINBACH (Q-9648). In TF Hudelson zone enemy initiated 2 Bn attack shortly after midnight making penetration SE of BITCHE and vic BANNSTEIN. Enemy elements also infiltrated behind several forward positions. Air OP reports estimated 500 foot troops moving SW vic Q-8147 at 1515A. Estimated infantry regiment observed moving SW from Q-8545 during early afternoon. Fighting in BARENTHAL (Q-8342) continued. Reports placed enemy vic Q-7646 where large column headed SW was reported by Air OP.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

In 100th Div. zone enemy continued aggressive. Pincer attack from E and W on hill vic Q-7749 drove friendly bn from positions. Estimated bn of enemy infiltrated vic Q-7646 but another infiltration vic RIMLING (Q-6555) mopped up. Four tanks carrying infantry reported at MOUTENHOUSE (Q-7942). In 44th Div. sector enemy continued intermittent attacks supported by armor between 60 and 65 Eastings. All attacks reported repulsed early in period. Pressure slackened somewhat during afternoon, and estimated bn of enemy driven from woods vic Q-6055. Later 3 enemy attempts at crossing BLIES river vic Q-5559 succeeded in getting one Co. across at 2400A. Attack by estimated bn of infantry supported by 10 tanks vic Q-6355 repulsed. 103rd Div. zone generally quiet. In sector of 106th Cav. Gp estimated 200 enemy with some towed guns in woods vic Q-3371. Enemy increasing pressure vic LUDWEILER (Q-3269).

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

TAC/R reports M/T negligible in battle area. Rail traffic generally light E of RHINE and N of battle zone. 5 trains, 3 with tanks and/or M/T moving S vic M-1107.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.

Code name for present offensive is "10 May 1940" in commemoration of HITLER's entry into FRANCE. Reliable PW 17 SS FG Div. states mission of Div. to break through at ROHRBACH. 37 and 38 SS PGR's up to full T/O, 3 Bns per Regt. Claims Bn CO told men that 78 Assault Div. is in vic, also another well rested infantry division in barracks at HASSEL (Q-5874). (Comment: SHAEF reports 78 Assault Div. located RUSSIA, in Nov.). PW's taken by 44th Div. state enemy suffered extremely heavy casualties from infantry weapons and arty, in some instances 50%.

b. PWs Taken.

Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 011800A Jan: 129,531. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944 and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armd Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

c. Weather Forecast.

2 Jan: High clouds with some low clouds in afternoon. Visibility 2-3 miles until 1000A due to light fog improving to 7-8 miles thereafter. No precipitation. Wind NE, 4-8 mph. Min temp 17 degs F.

3 Jan: High and middle clouds throughout day. Visibility 1-2 miles until 1100A due to fog improving to 5-6 miles thereafter. No precipitation. Wind NE, 8-10 mph. Min temp 16 degs F.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN
Colonel, G. S. C., *mm s*
A. C. of S., G-2.

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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C O N F I D E N T I A LHEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
APO 758 US ARMYCopy No. 26Ref. No. X-28G-2 REPORTFrom: 012400A Jan 45
To : 022400A Jan 45Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
032400A January 1945

No. 141.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact. (See Attached Map)(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

Elmts. 6th SS Mtn Div. NORD }

256th VG Div. }

Elmts. 476th Inf. Regt. }

361st VG Div. }

Elmts. 951st Inf. Regt. }

361st Engr. Bn. - identified vic REIPERSWILLER (Q-8037).

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

257th VG Div.

477th Inf. Regt.

2nd Bn. - vic Q-7345.

559th Div.

1126th Inf. Regt.

2nd Bn. - identified vic Q-7547.

1127th Inf. Regt.

1st Bn. - identified vic Q-7550.

c. Reserves and Other Forces Capable of Intervention.(1) 435th VG Division.

PW from enemy patrol across RHINE states he belongs to recently formed 435 VG Div., which has total of 5 Inf. Bns, no arty. Does not know regt'l numbers. Div. composed of 50% Marine units. (Comment: Although not unlikely, confusion with 405 or possible upgrading of 405 Admin. Div. probable).

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Enemy counterattack, following raid by friendly troops E of KEMBS (A-8898) afternoon of 1 January, repulsed. Patrol activity ASPACH (V-5607) area.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

Enemy offensive continued with strong attacks against Seventh Army center in HART Mountains - SAAR Valley area. Attacks launched in company to battalion strength with up to 8 tanks in support. In LEMBERG (Q-7445) - BITCHE (Q-7750) area, enemy achieved initial gains but was subsequently contained. Other attacks were unsuccessful. Armor and nebelwerfer fire in support of enemy infantry were particularly strong on the western side of the salient.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps meeting strong resistance vic WERBELN (Q-3172).

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

VI Corps: Enemy tanks moving S on BITCHE - LEMBERG road, number unknown, during morning. 10-12 tanks in vic Q-7445 during the morning. At 0800A estimated 6 tanks with infantry entered BARENTAL (Q-8442); 1 tank damaged. Enemy armor and infantry, strength unestimated moving S along roads Q-8039 and Q-7839. Enemy roadblock supported by 3 tanks vic Q-7339.

XV Corps: At vic Q-6255, 10-12 enemy tanks 0845A to 1100A reported by 776 TD. At 1215A, 5 tanks reported by 100th Div. at Q-7447, and 5 at Q-7546.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L(2) Artillery.

VI Corps: Fairly heavy concentrations in a few critical areas characterized enemy arty activities. During the night the woods N of R-2246 received 50 rds., and infantry in ODERSTEIN-BACH (Q-9648) were harassed by 45 rds medium caliber. 6 rds of estimated 170 mm were received vic R-1535 at 2240A. In 79th Div. sector, except for light harassing fire, principle shelling was estimated 90 rds of medium caliber interdicting the bridge at WISSEMBOURG. In the 45th Div. sector light shelling occurred intermittently in the ODERSTEINBACH, DAMBACH (Q-9244) and BARENTHAL (Q-8442) areas. The enemy supported his aggressive action with moderate concentrations but as yet no great arty strength appears to be located in that sector.

XV Corps: Enemy arty activity decreased in volume and intensity over the previous period, and was scattered over the 44th and 100th Div. sectors. The 103rd sector reported no activity while in the 106th Cav. sector forward elements received light shelling around noon. In the 100th Div. sector enemy nobelwerfers were very active with fire falling at GUIRING (Q-6552), BETTVILLER (Q-6753), RILLING (Q-6555), TRAIL (Q-6455), an OP vic Q-5454 and also vic Q-7252. A nebelwerfer barrage was reported vic Q-7453 at 1200A. A battery position vic Q-6349 received 35 rds of possible counter-battery fire from 1445A to 1520A. RILLING and vic were also the targets of 88 mm and 150 mm fire during the day.

(3) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

RHINE sector quiet. 79th Div. reported enemy patrols active vic BERG (R-3442) during early part of period. In 45th Div. and TF HUDELSON sectors, enemy patrolling actively and infiltrating vic Q-9246 and Q-9547. Estimated two company attack vic Q-8744 early in day; later, however, only light resistance met friendly advance N of PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742). 200-300 enemy attacked SE from BARENTHAL (Q-8442) and maintained heavy pressure here and W of REIFERSWILLER (Q-8037). Estimated company attacked friendly roadblock vic WILDERGUTH (Q-7838) unsuccessfully, but fighting continued in area. Close contact N of SARREINSBERG (Q-7442) where estimated company attacked SW from Q-7542 without gaining ground. Strong roadblock supported by 2 tanks reported Q-7240. Considerable movement reported in LEMBERG (Q-7755) and air OP reported infantry and some truck drawn arty in MOUTERHOUSE (Q-7542) moving S and SW.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

Attack against 100th Div. vic Q-7547 repulsed at 0900A; second attack this area, by 100-150 infantry supported by 5-7 tanks, forced slight withdrawal but ground retaken later without opposition. Attack in undetermined size vic Q-7448 stopped after achieving initial success. Attack vic Q-6556 by estimated company supported by 5 tanks repulsed at noon. Troops reported displacing from UTWEILER (Q-6656) to PEPPENHUM (Q-6760) late in day and, enemy digging in along entire division front at close of period. 44th Div. broke up enemy attack by battalion of infantry supported by 8 tanks vic Q-6354 about noon. Attack in undetermined strength vic Q-6254 dispersed at 1930A and another in same area, supported by 6 tanks, repulsed at 2100A. At Q-6155 attack by unknown number of tanks and infantry was broken up by arty in the morning. Assembly of estimated four battalions of infantry in woods vic Q-5665 was believed dispersed by friendly arty. 103rd Div. reported no enemy activity during the period. Except for small patrols, the enemy was not aggressive in 106th Cav. Gp sector. However, he offered strong resistance with SA, AW and arty fire to attempt to force him back across SAAR river.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

TAG/R reported road movement extremely light and scattered except in the immediate vic of the battle area. Rail traffic was generally light but included two trains, of 25 and 30 cars respectively, carrying an undetermined number of tanks moving S vic Q-7893.

C O N F I D E N T I A L3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.(1) 19 & 36 Divisions.

In addition to 17 SS PG Div., PWs from 19 and 36 Divs. state their units suffered extremely heavy casualties.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 311800A Dec to 011800A Jan: 50 (including 13 deserters and 10 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 011800A Jan: 129,581. PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 011800A to 021800A Jan: 156 (including 26 deserters and 14 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 021800A Jan: 129,737. (These figures include 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

c. Weather Forecast.

4 & 5 Jan: Overcast sky with few breaks; intermittent rain. Clouds 1,000 to 2,000 feet. Visibility 4-6 miles. Surface wind 5-10 mph; gusty. Min temp 32 degrees F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2. *EJB*

1 Encl.

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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Historical Spec.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
APO 758 US ARMYCopy No. 26From: 022400A Jan 45
To : 032400A Jan 45Ref. No. X-50G-2 REPORTHq. Seventh Army
In the Field
040600A January 1945

No. 142.

Map: GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map).(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.6th SS Mtn Div. NORD.Elmts. 6th SS Sig. Bn. - identified vic Q-8742.257th VG Div.Elmts. 457th Inf. Regt. - vic Q-7140.Elmts. 466th Inf. Regt. - vic Q-7442.361st VG Div.Elmts. 952nd Inf. Regt. - REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) area.953rd Inf. Regt. - vic Q-7837.(b) XV U.S. Corps.17th SS PG Div.38th SS PG Regt.1st Bn.2nd Bn.353rd Flame Thrower Co.)

} - identified vic Q-6252.

19th Inf. Div.73rd Inf. Regt.2nd Bn. - vic Q-5658.74th Inf. Regt.1st Bn. - vic Q-5258.(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 6th SS Mtn. Div.

PWs 6 SS Mtn. Div. state Div. located between EGUEL-SHARDT (Q-8247) and STURZELBRONN (Q-8951). CG is Germaj. PRINER.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Enemy remained generally quiet during period confining his activity to raid on the Navigation Service Building in KEMBS, and placing harassing arty fire on MITTELWIHR (V-6950) and ORBEY (V-5747). Infiltration attempt between NOIRMONT (V-5545) and LAC NOIR (V-5446) repulsed. Night bombers report considerable MT movement night 2/3 Jan., predominately S, in RHINE valley between KARLSRUHE and BASLE.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

Enemy in RHINE valley remained quiet as did 245 Div. along eastern slopes of HARDT Mountains. However, 256 Div. continued strong pressure in PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) - BARENTHAL (Q-8442) area, while the 361 Div., by infiltrations and attacks, pushed on to the REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) - WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) area, where at dark its forward elements were consolidating their positions. Evidently enemy efforts this area not finished as PW statement indicates elements 6 SS Mtn Div. coming into this sector. 257 Div. offered strong resistance to counterattack by friendly troops in the SARRENSBERG (Q-7441) area and did some unsuccessful attacking itself in the GOETZENBRUCH (Q-7442) area. 559 Div. in BITCHE area was not very aggressive. 17 SS PG Div. continued its aggressive attitude and met with some initial success in driving into REDERCHING (Q-6252) and ACHEN (Q-5949). The 36 and 19 Divs. remained comparatively quiet, apparently licking their wounds re-

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ceived the previous two days. On the Army's W flank the 347 Div. was generally quiet except in the vic of LUDWEILER (Q-3269), where a small attack and some patrol activity was reported.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

In XX Corps sector enemy remained quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

Although the enemy applied heavy pressure throughout the center of Army zone, no large scale employment of tanks was reported. One Mk IV was observed on road between BARENTHAL and PHILIPPSBOURG, and 4 tanks reported in latter town. In SAAR valley, tanks of the 17 SS PG Div. supported the Div's. attack in the REDERCHING area, where 8 tanks were reported and a like number was reported in BELLEVUE Farms (Q-6154) area. Several tanks, supporting infantry in the attack, reached ACHEN. Several flame throwers mounted on T-38 CZECH tank chassis were encountered in the ACHEN area, and PW taken from the 353 Flame Thrower Co. stated his company and 351 and 352 Flame Thrower Co's. were in support of the 17 SS PG Div. Each company is reported to have 10 flame throwers.

(2) Artillery.

With the exception of REIPERTSWILLER area, where considerable enemy fire was received during the night, enemy arty activity was light along the entire VI Corps front. Moderate shelling believed to be coming from SP arty fell on the same area during the day. The only report of shelling, other than scattered harassing fires, was in the PHILIPPSBOURG area, where 45 rds fell between 1830A and 2230A. The lack of arty support for the enemy's attack may be attributed to difficulties of supporting infiltration tactics. Further, the restricted road net and icy condition of poor mountain roads seriously hinder rapid arty displacements.

Enemy arty activity increased both in volume and intensity on the XV Corps front over the previous period. The greatest activity was felt in the zone of the 100th Div. where BINING (Q-6449) and GUISING (Q-6552) were hardest hit during night with concentrations falling at 0010A and 0315A, some of which were believed to be nebelwerfer. A significant point about the night firing is the fact that targets were in greater depth than they have been previously with the 280 mm gun. Indications are that the enemy attempted to destroy bridges at SARRERWENDEN (Q-5236), SARRERUNION (Q-5238) and SARRALBE (Q-4844). SCHIRESTHAL (Q-7141) received 100 rds of mixed light and medium arty around 1600A. Heavy shelling was received at LUDWEILER (Q-3269) at 1700A and 1820A. Throughout period light and intermittent fires were received at LUDWEILER, WITTRING, MEISENTHAL (Q-7150), LEMBERG (Q-7345), ROHRBACH (Q-6549), HERBITZHEIM (Q-5246), along road vic Q-565507 and in arty positions at Q-6449, Q-625439 and Q-662463.

(3) Aviation.

Due probably to inclement weather the enemy went without aerial support.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

Enemy along RHINE river remained quiet while 79th Div. reported only enemy activity in their zone observed was enemy patrol moving NW from MORTHEREN (R-3037). In 45th Div. sector enemy continued to apply heavy pressure. Company size attack on PHILIPPSBOURG was repulsed, but at close of period infantry supported by armor had gotten into town and enemy was maintaining strong contact here and W to BARENTHAL. A two-pronged bn attack on REIPERTSWILLER from N and NW was repulsed as was a later attack by force of undetermined strength from the W. At close of period enemy was consolidating his positions on the high ground N of town while apparently awaiting reinforcements. At dark enemy was attacking WILDENGUTH while earlier attack on MEISENTHAL (Q-7140) was repelled. Friendly counterattack in SARRERNSBERG and KOHLHUTTE (Q-7438) area met strong resistance.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

In 100th Div. sector estimated enemy bn supported by tanks cut BITCHE highway vic GOETZENBRUCH. However, enemy later forced back by counterattack. At dark, enemy in bn strength again made

C O N F I D E N T I A L

unsuccessful attack N of town. Farther N, an estimated 75 enemy made small attack in area NE of LAMBACH (Q-7348). 44th Div. reports that during early hours of morning estimated two enemy bns supported by tanks, SPs and flame throwers got into ACHEN and REDERCHING. By dark, however, counterattack by friendly troops forced enemy to withdraw from both towns. Situation reported in hand at close of period. Further counterattacks by friendly troops forced enemy to give ground in BELLEVUE Farm area. Farther to E enemy in company strength made unsuccessful attack S of BLIESBRUCK (Q-5959). Heavy enemy traffic observed from REINHEIM (Q-5960) to BLIESBRUCKEN (Q-5957), and from BIBLESHEIM (Q-5863) to HADKIRCHEN (Q-5659). 103rd Div. reports enemy their front quiet. Ren party moving vic Q-4062 drew AW fire. In sector of 106th Cav. an attempted attack by estimated 80 enemy from GEISLAUTERN (Q-3471) toward LUDWEILER was broken up by arty fire around 1400A. Earlier enemy had been observed digging in at Q-3371. At dark, 2 enemy patrols were reported active in the LUDWEILER area.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.(1) 257 VG Div.

PWs 457 and 466 GRs stated they have neither slept nor eaten for three days; also have suffered heavy casualties. Were told to hold at all cost, as reinforcements expected night 3/4 Jan.

(2) 25th PGD

PW from 36 Div. stated that 119 Div. will shortly relieve his unit. (Comment: Probably meant 119 PGR of 25 PG Div.)

(3) 256 VG Div.

PWs from 256 VG Div. stated that initial mission was to secure left flank for offensive.

(4) 12 SS Mtn. Regt.

PW from 953 GR states he was to act as guide for 12 SS Mtn. Regt. destined to assemble vic Q-7837 night 3/4 Jan.

b. Enemy Methods.(1) Intoxicants.

In various sectors of Seventh U.S. Army zone enemy mounted attack under strong influence of intoxicants, marching through dense minefields, four abreast, with fixed bayonets against intense and heavy automatic fire.

c. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 021800A to 031800A Jan: 97 (including 1 deserter and 10 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 031800A Jan: 129,834. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

d. Weather Forecast.

5 Jan: Broken low clouds with snow squalls during day and evening. Visibility 10 miles. Wind N & NE, 20 mph; gusty. Colder with min temp 25 degrees F.

6 Jan: Broken low clouds in morning becoming scattered in afternoon, and clearing at night. Snow squalls ending by dawn. Visibility over 6 miles. Diminishing northeasterly winds, 10-15 mph. Continued cold with min temp 22 degrees F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2.

1 Encl: Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
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C O N F I D E N T I A LHEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
APO 758 US ARMYCopy No. 26Ref. No. X-60.G-2 REPORTFrom: 032400A Jan 45
To : 042400A Jan 45Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
050600A January 1945

No. 143.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map).(1) New Identifications(a) VI U.S. Corps.6th SS Itn. Div.12th SS Itn. Regt. MICHAEL GATSSMAIR.1st Bn.506th z.b.V. Mtz. Bn.

(Probably 50c Mobile Bn.)

361st VG Div.Elmts. 951st Inf. Regt. - identified LEMBACH (Q-7349) area.559th Inf. Div.Elmts. 1126th Inf. Regt.- LEMBACH (Q-7349) area.Elmts. 1559th Arty Regt.- in vic Q-7548.(b) XV U.S. Corps.17th SS PG Div.17th SS Tank Bn - identified vic Q-5949.(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 6 SS Itn. Div.

According to PWs, Regts. have 3 Bns, each 6 Co's., and 19th Co. Div. consists of 70% VOLKSDEUTSCHE, including large percentage HUNGARIANS. CG SS GRUPPENFUHRER BRENNER (not Gen-maj. PRINER, as previously reported).

(b) 17th SS Tank Bn.

PW from this Bn. stated Bn. has 3 Co's., each having 15 assault guns; 20 Mk V Panthers also attached.

c. Reserves and Other Forces Capable of Intervention.(1) 233rd Res. Pz. Div.

PWs state elements 233 Res. Pz. Div. probably located 2 Kms. E of CAMP DE BITCHE area. (Comment: Believed to be replacements for 21 Pz. Div. as both Divs. are from WEHRKREIS III).

(2) 25th PG Div.

Reliable PW stated 25 PG Div. was at STEINHAUSEN (Q-7965) on 28 Dec.

(3) 26th SS Pz. Div.

According to PW, 26 SS Pz. Div. was in process of formation at KURMARK on 18 Dec.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Repeated company strength attacks were repulsed vic V-5445. Heavy resistance and counterattacks held up our advance E and SE of Hill 216 (V-6548), and there was increased arty fire against KIENTZHEIM (V-6547), AMMERSCHWIHR (V-6545) and SIGOLSHEIM (V-6748). Patrols were active and harassing arty fire was placed on numerous towns in SELESTAT area. An arty supported raid against KEMBS (A-8399) and infiltrations SW of town repulsed. Abnormal train assemblage noted at stations on right bank of RHINE.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

RHINE sector remained quiet but enemy pressure continued heavy in HART mountains as forward elements infiltrated into WINGEN (Q-7335) in estimated strength 200, thus cutting INGWILLER Pass.

- 1 -

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Other groups of similar strength reached this general area but concentrated attacks had diminished in number and intensity by close of period. However, increasing pressure and strong patrol activity was reported in vic BAERENTHAL (Q-8442) - PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8743) - DAMBACH (Q-9245). Enemy continued attempts to effect breakthrough in area E of SAAR river and arty fire increased, particularly on northern towns in 44th Div. and 100th Div. sectors. The remainder of front was relatively inactive with light harassing arty on west flank and minor patrol activity on the east.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps - generally quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

VI Corps: Enemy tanks were observed early in morning at following locations. One on road DAMBACH (Q-9245) - NEUNHOFFEN (Q-9146). One in DAMBACH 09054, and two reported at 15454. One at Q-8441 at 11204 and four Mk VI at Q-7939 at 11154. At 10304 two tanks at Q-923454 and two others at Q-923457. At 12404 a tank at Q-916457. Two tanks at 11204 at Q-835422. At 11224 four tanks at Q-8039 and four more tanks at Q-792376. (Initial report by arty, but TD's in vic could not locate). Unknown number of tanks at 13004 vic Q-752421. Three tanks vic Q-725404 this morning. One tank KO'd by TD's at Q-726403.

XV Corps: At 09004 arty of 100th Div. fired on three tanks Q-637563, results unknown. At 11304 five tanks and some vehicles painted white and men in white clothing at Q-618543. 100th Div. reports 13004 arty destroyed two out of three tanks vic Q-7239.

(2) Artillery.

Intensity and size of enemy arty concentrations continued in the XV Corps sector. Large caliber guns continued to shell SARRE-UNION (Q-5238), SARRALBE (Q-4844) and HERBITZHEIM (Q-5246). These weapons were est 280 mm or 360 mm RR guns. Some light harassing fire fell in the 106th Cav. Gp sector, but no activity was reported in the 103rd Div. sector. In the 44th Div. sector, heavy concentrations were received in WEISVILLER (Q-5853), WITTRING (Q-5650), FOLPERSVILLER (Q-5558) and in the NW edge of SARGUE-IMMES (Q-5257). Light harassing fires of 10 to 15 rds were received in other parts of the 44th Div. sector during the period. There was a tremendous increase in the size of concentrations falling in the 100th Div. sector, with towns and villages receiving concentrations of 50 to 75 rds. Heavy concentrations were received in ROHRBACH (Q-6549), MONTDORNN (Q-6944), GUISSING (Q-6552), SARGUEINSBERG (Q-7441), and LEMBERG (Q-7345). Interdictory and harassing fires were received on the road vic Q-6154, the forest vic Q-7343, and the road and ridge vic Q-7240, with lighter concentrations falling on other areas.

In the VI Corps sector the enemy arty activity continues very light. Although horse drawn and motorized columns have been reported in the mountainous area, the volume of fire received indicates only a small number of arty pieces supporting attack. Night activity consisted of harassment of the REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) area, and during the day this area and WIMMENAU (Q-7734) were harassed. Interdiction fire was received during the day on the road vic Q-8639 and on the WINDSTEIN (Q-9843) - DAMBACH (Q-9245) road, the latter route receiving an est 200 rds of mostly light caliber.

(3) Aviation.

Air activity was very light. There were two flights over VI Corps, one of 2 and one of 9 ME-109's. One P-47 with German markings reported strafing vic Q-6054 in 44th Div. area at 13004.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

The RHINE river sector remained quiet and 79th Div. reported no enemy in BUHL (R-1935), OBENSEEBACH (R-1841) or RIEDESELTZ (R-1543). However, an enemy OP was located at R-1644, activity vic R-1745 was reported, and a patrol clash occurred at R-1838. Civilians state enemy repairing bridge at NEU LAUTERBURG (R-3242), 3 Jan. Enemy pressure increased against 45th Div. in the DAMBACH area, where 4 tanks and a 20 mm gun were engaged. Strong patrols

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and intense mortar and arty fire continued against our forward elements in PHILIPPSDORF - DAERENTHAL area, but enemy pressure vic REIPENTSWILLER (Q-8037) - WILDENGUTH (Q-7838) decreased somewhat after 1300h. Penetration at SAEGMUHL (Q-7937) wiped out. At 0945h, est 200 enemy infiltrated into WINGEN (Q-7335), while approx 200 enemy moved to Q-7436 with an unknown number digging in vic Q-7736. There were an est 500 enemy vic Q-8342 at 1120h, and an air OP reported 3 guns at Q-8446. SA, mortar, MG and light arty fire opposed attack to clear enemy from INGWILLER Pass vic WINGEN and WILHEIMAU (Q-7734) late in period.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

During night 3/4 Jan., 100th Div. repulsed attack in platoon strength vic Q-7446. Three enemy tanks, 9 loaded personnel carriers and 2 halftracks were taken under arty fire with unknown results. BETTVILLER (Q-6753) and GUISING (Q-6652) received heavy shelling 1050h. Enemy offered strong resistance to attack by troops of 100th Div. vic Q-7443, and arty fire was intense throughout the sector. The 44th Div. had cleared scattered groups of enemy from northern outskirts of ACHEN (Q-5949) and GROS REDECHING (Q-6252) by approx 1700h against moderate resistance. However, enemy continued to hold positions NE and NW of GROS REDECHING, as well as BELLEVUE Farm (Q-6254) and BRANDELFINGERHOF Farm (Q-6154). Enemy attempts to infiltrate vic Q-5856 were repulsed. In 103rd Inf. Div. sector no aggressive action was reported but an undetermined number of SP guns were observed moving from FORBACH (Q-3965) to GAUPINGEN (Q-4062). No arty was reported in the sector. In 106th Cav. Gp area enemy reported digging in on high ground SE of WADGASSEN (Q-3174) and a friendly patrol received SA fire from Q-3272 and mortar fire from Q-3371. Light harassing arty fire was also reported.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

Visibility limited TAC/R to one partially successful mission which reported only a few scattered HIT moving in general battle area.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PW Statements.

(1) 6 SS Mtn. Div.

According to PW, 6 SS Mtn. Div. left DENMARK on 24 Dec., taking following route: HAMBURG, ZELLE, HANOVER, GOETTINGEN, FULDA, WUERZBURG, MANNHEIM, LUDWIGSHAFEN, LANDAU, PIRMASENS; arrived STUZZELBRONN, 30 Dec.

b. Agent Reports.

(1) Enemy Attack.

Usually reliable source indicates attack on WIMMENAU (Q-7734) by SS troops still pending. (Comment: Probably referring to elements 6 SS Mtn. Div.)

c. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 031800A to 041800A Jan: 4110 (which includes 17 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 041800A Jan: 130,244. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

d. Weather Forecast.

6 Jan: Scattered snow showers and broken clouds throughout day. Visibility 6-8 miles reducing to 2-3 miles in snow. Wind from N, 8-12 mph. Continued cold with min temp 23 degs F.

7 Jan: Partly cloudy with scattered snow showers over high VOSGES. Visibility 6-8 miles lowering to 2-3 miles in scattered snow showers. Wind from NW, 8-10 mph. Min temp 20 degs F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2

1 Encl: Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
DISTRIBUTION: X-3.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
APO 758 US ARMY

Copy No. 26Ref. No. X-77G-2 REPORT

From: 042400A Jan 45
To : 052400A Jan 45

Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
060600A January 1945

No. 144.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map).(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.6th SS Mtn. Div.12th SS Mtn. Regt.1st Bn.3rd Bn.19th VG Div.59th VG Regt.1st Bn.257th VG Div.477th VG Regt.Elmts. 2nd Bn.361st VG Div.361st Fus. Co.E-V Regt.2nd Co.Organization and Strength.(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 256 VG Div.

PW gives CP of this Div. in vic Q-8349.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Surprise local attack forced friendly outposts from NEUNKIRCH (V-9268); positions subsequently retaken. Estimated 20-man patrol crossed RHINE night of 4/5 January and infiltrated to ERSTEIN (V-9480) where they were taken under fire and dispersed. Harassing enemy arty fire on EBERMUNSTER (V-8468), EBERSHEIM (V-8267), SELESTAT (V-7962), HUNNAWIHR (V-6853) and RIBEAUVILLE (V-6855).

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

The quiet period on the RHINE river front came to an end with the crossing of an estimated battalion of enemy to the general area GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) - OFFENDORF (R-1312), with further small elements continuing to cross during the day. Counterattack by U.S. forces was meeting SA and AV fire vic GAMBSHEIM at end of day. Additional enemy troops were observed on E bank of river but no indications that a major bridging operation is contemplated.

In the HARDT Mountain sector movements toward DAMBACH (Q-9244), aggressive infiltrations on the E side of the salient, and the movement of elements of 257 VG Div. from W to E may indicate an eastward drift of the enemy's main effort in the salient. He continued to offer strong resistance on the S and at WINGEN (Q-7336) where enemy troops who cut the INGWILLER Pass road have been isolated. An attack against the 44th Div. was repulsed.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

Enemy quiet on XX Corps front.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

VI Corps: Several tanks and SP guns were in a column of 70 vehicles moving SW from Q-8751 to Q-8550. 3 tanks proceeded E from MOUTERHOUSE (Q-7942) towards BAERENTHAL (Q-8442). At 1100A, our arty fired on 4 tanks at Q-8443, knocking out one and damaging three. At 1330A, SP fire fell in PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742). A civilian reports 2 tanks at R-0051. 3 tanks and infantry located at R-1217 at 1500A.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

L-1136

C O N F I D E N T I A L

XV Corps: 44th Div. Arty reported 3 tanks vic Q-6155 at 0900A and again at 1930A. These were taken under fire by our arty with unknown results. 8 tanks or SP's reported to have supported infantry attack in this area in afternoon. TAC/R reported 15 tanks vic ZWEIBRUCKEN at 0830A. Results of bombing missions against these tanks still unknown.

(2) Artillery.

Actual reports of enemy arty activity in the VI Corps sector would indicate very little change from the previous day. However, communication difficulties prevented infantry units from sending reports, and the number of flashes picked up by Air OP's would tend to show considerable firing on our front line troops. WILHEIMAU (Q-7734) received light harassing fire during the night, and 150 rds of light caliber fell in the same area at mid-day. A considerable concentration, reported as of heavy caliber, fell in forward area, vic R-1443. In the afternoon the enemy supported his river crossing with several light concentrations in the town of GAMBESHEIM (R-1110). AOP locations today indicate that the enemy is making maximum use of the few clearings in the wooded mountains in our W sector, especially vic Q-7985 and NW of BAERENTHAL.

In the XV Corps sector there was a decided decrease in enemy arty activity over the previous period. Between 050600A and 052100A very little activity was reported, most of which was confined to front line troops vic Q-6954, Q-6054 and Q-7054. Heavy (170mm) caliber fire fell in BINING (Q-6448), SARREUNION (Q-5238) and ROHRBACH (Q-6549) during the night of 4/5 Jan. An additional 3 rds of heavy caliber fell vic ROHRBACH at 051930A. Arty positions vic Q-6446 received 15 rds of heavy caliber. Concentrations exceeding 30 rds fell on MONTERONN (Q-6843) and BOUSHACH (Q-4261). Light harassing fires were directed at REMELFING (Q-5254), W of PUTTELANGE (Q-4150), HUNDLING (Q-4456) and in the vic of USING.

(3) Aviation.

Two sorties over XV Corps sector were only enemy air activity reported.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

Crossing of RHINE by estimated battalion of enemy vic R-1309 early in period was followed by further small and scattered crossings by boat and barge during the day. Group of friendly troops were ambushed at R-0909 and enemy units were reported at R-1011, R-0612, R-0511, R-0611, R-1111. OFFENDORF (R-1312) was reported occupied, and a friendly company surrounded vic HERRLISHEIM (R-1214). An estimated platoon was reported in WEYERSHEIM (R-0513) in the morning but the town was later cleared. An enemy attack against DRUSENHEIM (R-1517) was repulsed. Enemy infiltrated into GAMBESHEIM (R-1110) and at end of period friendly counterattack toward the town was meeting strong SA and AW fire. The 79th Div. zone was quiet. 45th Div. reported movements of enemy personnel and vehicles vic DAMBACH (Q-9244), possibly indicating shift of additional forces to this area. Enemy pressure relaxed vic PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742), but farther W small groups infiltrated into woods vic Q-8537 and cut road vic Q-8737. 30 enemy crossed river vic Q-8237 and at close of period were attacking castle vic Q-8236. At Q-8143, mines were being laid and roadblocks constructed, according to Air OP. Along the southern side of enemy salient, friendly advance was meeting stiff resistance late in period vic Q-8038, Q-7837, Q-7736; earlier friendly patrols had drawn SA fire from dug-in positions vic Q-8243, and had met heavy resistance from enemy dug in on ridge vic Q-7938. Attempted infiltrations vic Q-7538 and small counterattack vic Q-7735 were repulsed. Two battalions surrounded at WINGEN (Q-7336) continue to offer strong resistance.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

No enemy aggressive actions reported from 100th Div. front, but motor vehicles were heard coming into SCHORBACH (Q-7653) and EPPING-URBACH (Q-6957); considerable troop movement was observed vic GUIDERKIRCH (Q-6656) and ERCHING (Q-6557). Farther W, in 44th Div. sector, sounds of movement heard early in period proved to be preparations for attack which was launched in afternoon vic Q-6155 by undetermined number of infantry supported by

C O N F I D E N T I A L

8 tanks or SP's. Attack repulsed but tanks or SP's continued harassing fire. 103rd Div. and 106th Cav. Gp sectors were quiet.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

TAC/R reports rail traffic generally light throughout area. In RHINE bridgehead sector four barges observed crossing at 1315A vic R-1411. Numerous troops in woods on E bank and two truck convoys, believed enemy, on W bank. No bridging materials or other evidence to indicate large scale bridge crossing contemplated. In 45th Div. sector Air OP reported 300 enemy marching NE vic Q-8845 and estimated 2 companies with 70 vehicles and 8 arty pieces moving S vic Q-8650. 20 vehicles moving S at Q-8049 and 10 vehicles NW at Q-8245. 100th Div. reported motor vehicles entering EPPING-URBACH (Q-6957) and SCHORBACH (Q-7653) and troop movements vic ERCHING (Q-6557) and GUIDERKIRCH (Q-6656).

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.(1) E-V Regt.

PWs from E-V Regt. stated they crossed RHINE at 0500A, did not know mission, and had one day rations.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 041800A to 051800A Jan: 335. Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 051800A Jan: 130,579. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FMBTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

c. Weather Forecast.

7 Jan: Light snow beginning in morning, continuing intermittently throughout day. Cloudy sky entire period. Visibility 1 mile at dawn, improving to 2-3 miles. Wind westerly 5-7 mph. Min temp 26 degrees F.

8 Jan: Generally broken cloudiness with rain and snow showers during afternoon. Visibility 3-5 miles. Wind westerly 8-13 mph. Min temp 27 degrees F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W Quinn C/413
 WILLIAM W. QUINN
 Colonel, G. S. C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2.

1 Encl.

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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 HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
 Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
 APO 758 US ARMY
Copy No. 26
 From: 052400A Jan 45
 To : 062400A Jan 45
Ref. No. X-110G-2 REPORT

No. 145.

 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 070600A January 1945

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
 b. Units in Contact. (See Attached Map).

(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.5th Motor Repl. Bn. - vic. R-1822.21st Pz. Div.Elmts. 21st Pz Rcn Bn. - vic INGOLSHEIM (R-1441).256th Volks Gren. Div.456th GR2nd Bn. - vic. PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8843)476th GR2nd Bn. - vic. BAERENTHAL (Q-8442).Elmts. 81st Gren. Repl. Bn. - vic OFFENDORF (R-1312).(b) XV U.S. Corps.17th SS PG Div.38th SS PGR1st Bn. - vic. Q-5956.19th Volks Gren. Div.73rd GR2nd Bn. - vic. Q-5956.(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 25th PG Div.

F/Bs reported tanks in EGUELSHARDT area (Q-8247); believe these to be part of 25th PG Div. by deduction, as identification of 21st Rcn Bn at INGOLSHEIM possibly indicates employment of 21st Pz. Div. from WISSEMBOURG Gap.

(b) 36th VG Div.

Identification of elmts. 19th Inf Div. and 17th SS PG Div. in one area indicates possible withdrawal of 36th VG Div.

c. Reserves and Other Forces Capable of Intervention.(1) 1120th GR.

Undated captured map shows CP 1120th GR vic. LEIBERSTUNG (R-2617).

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

The enemy continued generally quiet with normal patrol activity being reported. After 20 minutes artillery preparation, a strong enemy raid made on ILE NAPOLEON (V-7407) at 051930A, which succeeded in penetrating friendly positions. This raid subsequently repulsed and friendly positions restored. Harassing artillery fire fell vic BOOFZHEIM (V-9570), EBERSMUNSTER (V-8468), EBERSHEIM (V-8267) and in the region of ORBEY (V-5647).

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

On the RHINE River front the enemy became more active and offered resistance in GAMBSHEIM (R-1010) and ROHRWILLER (R-1217) areas where enemy counterattacks were repulsed, and friendly troops forced to withdraw west to canal vic R-0812. Enemy still holds GAMBSHEIM, OFFENDORF (R-1312) and HENNELSHEIM (R-1214). Farther north the appearance of enemy armor actively probing friendly positions in the vic of INGOLSHEIM (R-1441) and the identification of PWs from 21 Pz Div. suggests possible employment that division this area. In HARTD Mountains the enemy showed some aggressiveness with three small counterattacks launched vic PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742).

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Strong resistance continued north of WINGEN (Q-7335) - INGWILLER (Q-8130) Pass. Stiff opposition offered by infiltrated groups south and east of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) and by isolated enemy troops in WINGEN. North of GROS-REDERCHING (Q-6252) enemy resisted strongly to attack early in period in BELLEVUE Farms (Q-6154) area, offering intense SA and AW fire with some armor encountered. In afternoon the enemy reacted this area, launching three counterattacks supported by armor. Friendly forces were forced to withdraw from BELLEVUE Farm and BRANDELFINGERHOF Farm (Q-6154) and situation quiet by 1630A. West from this point along front enemy remained generally inactive.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

Enemy quiet on XX Corps front.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

VI Corps: Evidence of armor activity apparent in INGOLSHEIM area as tanks reported operating that vic and PWs identify 21 Pz. Rcn Bn. here. Two tanks heard vic of BAERENTHAL (Q-8342) all through day. SP fire observed vic Q-7837. Tracked vehicle movement heard east of RHINE vic R-1717 at 1100A.

XV Corps: 5 to 7 tanks observed vic Q-6355 and taken under fire. 4 to 7 tanks taken under fire vic Q-6154, which supported enemy counterattacks that area during afternoon.

(2) Artillery.

On VI Corps front enemy arty activity increased moderately during period, especially in 45th Div sector where several heavy concentrations were reported. A resumption of shelling in 79th Div sector indicates that some guns have now moved closer in, possibly vic of WISSEMBOURG (R-1548). Night harassing fire was light, consisting mainly of shelling in INGWILLER - WILMENAU area. During day enemy supported his position and counterattacks with considerable arty fire, especially in the REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) - PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) and south of MEISENTHAL (Q-7240) areas. In REIPERTSWILLER area, for example, a total of 300 rounds, 75 and 105-mm caliber, fell between 1310A and 1420A, with an estimated battalion doing the shooting. 200 rounds fell vic of PHILIPPSBOURG between 1515A and 1530A. Lighter concentrations were placed on our troops in ERKARTSWILLER (Q-7230) and DAMBACH (Q-9244) areas. In 79th Div sector, INGOLSHEIM (R-1441) received several concentrations of light and medium caliber, significant in that this is the first time an area so far south has been shelled. In the bridgehead sector, the enemy lightly shelled vic of R-0313 and R-0919 in afternoon. It is doubtful that he has yet managed to bring any guns across, but is supporting the pocket from across the river, as TAC/R report of a medium caliber gun being manhandled along a road in the R-1612 square at 1600A would indicate. The shelling received in 45th Div sector confirms the presence of considerable arty in the mountain salient, which AOP's picked up yesterday.

In XV Corps zone, the period brought considerable decrease in activity from rather heavy activity of previous three days. The harassment of towns with heavy long-range weapons continued, as BINING (Q-6448) and ROHRBACH (Q-6549) received several rounds estimated 280-mm during night. Principal activity during day was in 44th Div sector when enemy arty reacted to our attack with several barrages of arty and Nebelwerfers in vic GROS-REDERCHING (Q-6252) and vic of BELLEVUE Farm (Q-6154). Harassing fire fell on troops in the Q-6855 and Q-6948 areas at intermittent intervals during day. No activity reported in 103rd Div or 106th Cav Group sectors.

(3) Aviation.

No enemy air activity reported over Army area during period.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In RHINE sector, STATTMATTEN (R-1921) surrounded by enemy at 0500A but later reported cleared. SESSENHEIM (R-1822) and ROHRWILLER (R-1217) also cleared. Early in period fire fight developed vic GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) and later enemy counterattack forced friendly troops to withdraw to canal vic R-0812. Small counterattack southeast of ROHRWILLER repulsed. DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) cleared against light resistance. Enemy still holds GAMBSHEIM,

OFFENDORF and HERRLISHEIM. In 79th Div zone patrol clashes occurred vic R-1343. Enemy patrol engaged friendly OP vic STUNDWILLER (R-1836). In 45th Div sector strong contact continued vic Q-7636 and Q-7737. Heavy resistance encountered vic enemy road-block in WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) area. Patrol probed friendly road-block vic Q-8237. Light contact in BAERENTHAL and PHILIPPSBOURG areas early in period; however, three small enemy counterattacks vic latter town later in day. Unoccupied prepared positions vic Q-8438. Isolated enemy forces vic LICHTENBERG (Q-8235) and WINGEN (Q-7335) continued to hold out.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

In 100th Div sector enemy generally quiet. In 44th Div zone advance by U.S. forces in BELLEVUE Farm (Q-6154) area met intense SA and AW fire, with some armor encountered early in period. In afternoon enemy reacted this area by launching three counterattacks supported by some armor, forcing friendly forces to withdraw from BELLEVUE Farm and BRANDELFINGERHOF Farm. Situation quiet after 1630A. In the area of 103rd Div and 106th Cav. Group the enemy remained generally inactive.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

TAC/R, at 1545A-1610A, reported 40-50 enemy rolling by hand what appeared to be a 150-mm how. south on road, east side of RHINE, vic R-1612. 5 pontoon boats or barges along east bank vic R-1511. Bridge at KARLSRUHE intact with 20 enemy in area. No bridges across RHINE, STRASBOURG - KARLSRUHE. Nothing caught eye of pilot to indicate bridging activities. 6 or 7 groups of 5-6 enemy scattered R-1612 to KARLSRUHE. Two 40-50 foot barges south on river R-2623. Nothing crossing river STRASBOURG - KARLSRUHE. Pilot flew at tree-top level. Visibility about 2 miles.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PW Statements.

(1) 5th Motor Repl. Bn.

Bn. CO, 5th Motor Repl. Bn. (P/W) stated they were given no mission and told to live off the land. Bn. was to be absorbed by 1120th GR, which he thought would cross the Rhine shortly. Knew that 553 VG was in process of being reconstituted east of Rhine.

(2) 12th SS Mountain Regt.

P/W's from 12th SS Mountain Regt state 1st and 3rd Bns cut off at WINGEN (Q-7336) for past 48 hours, living on captured American rations. Morale high. Probably will attempt breakthrough if no help reaches them.

b. P/W's Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 051800A to 061800A Jan: 233 (including 15 deserters and 23 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 061800A Jan: 130,812. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

c. Weather Forecast.

8 Jan: Clear at dawn, becoming partly cloudy with snow showers over entire area in afternoon. Visibility 1-2 miles in snow, improving to 8-10 miles elsewhere. Continued cold. Minimum temperature 15° F.

9 Jan: Clear at dawn becoming partly cloudy in afternoon. Very few snow showers over Vosges. Visibility generally 8-10 miles lowering in snow to 1-2 miles. Wind NW 7-9 mph. Continued cold. Minimum temperature 18° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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William W. Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN
 Colonel, G.S.C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2

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APO 758 US ARMYCopy No. 26From: 062400A Jan 45
To : 072400A Jan 45Ref. No. X-134G-2 REPORT

No. 146.

Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
080600A January 1945

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact. (See Attached Map).(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.21 Pz. Div.Elmts. 125th PGR - INGOLSHEIM (R-1441)192nd PGR.1st Bn. - vic. R-1643.405 Repl. Div. (?)405 AT Bn. - vic. GAMBSHEIM (R-1110)(b) XV U.S. Corps.17th SS PG Div.17th SS Pz. Rcn. Bn. - vic. Q-5955.347th Inf. Div.861st GR.Elmts. 2nd Bn. - vic. Q-3569.(2) Organization and Strength.(a) XIV Corps.Captured document shows SS Obergruppenfuhrer von der BACH
as RHINE Commandant and CG XIV Corps.(b) 553 VG Div.According to captured document, CG of 553 VG Div. is
Genmaj. UTEKER.2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.Early in day enemy launched attack north along ~~REUSE~~ RHINE
Canal in FRIESENHEIM (V-9567) - NEUNKIRCH (V-9268) - WITTERNHEIM
(V-9068) area, advanced NE from NEUNKIRCH and cut WITTERNHEIM -
FRIESENHEIM Road vic V-9368. East of canal, attack continued to-
ward OBENHEIM (V-9673) with estimated company and 15 tanks in woods
V-9373 and two Tiger tanks reported in outskirts KRAFFT (V-9780)
about 1200A. The SAND (V-9075) - OBENHEIM Road was cut vic
V-932743, RHINAU (V-9869) reported in enemy hands 1630A, but at
close of period strongpoints vic ROSSFELD (V-9171) - HERBSHEIM
(V-9172) and BOOFZHEIM (V-9270) - FRIESENHEIM were slowing enemy
advance. In bridgehead area, BETTENHOFFEN (R-1009) retaken by
enemy, and friendly attacks toward GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) met strong
resistance.(2) Seventh U.S. Army.Enemy reinforcing RHINE River bridgehead with armor and con-
tinuing aggressive action in this sector. Southern part DRUSENHEIM
(R-1518) reported held by inf. bn., with 8-10 tanks or SP in sup-
port. In the general RHINE - MAGINOT area, 21 Pz. Div. was con-
tacted and enemy displayed offensive attitude with vigorous patrol-
ling, slightly increased arty fire, and 5 tank supported attacks
vic STUNDWILLER (R-1836). Elsewhere he remained generally quiet
and on the defense, with normal patrol and arty activity reported.(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps sector continues quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

VI Corps: Nine tanks reported (R-168387) at 0845A. Three

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tanks reported (R-165375) at 1400A. Twelve tanks reported (R-177378). One Mark VI at (R-118432). One Mark V (R-105447). Five tanks reported (R-148422) at 1400A. Three tanks reported (R-199353). Some were undoubtedly same tanks, and total probably did not exceed 20. Three were destroyed. Ten SP guns reported GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) and vic. - three at R-108113, three at R-113097, and four at R-127104. Five were knocked out. Some tanks reported on both sides of RHINE River at GAMBSHEIM bridge, with one tank crossing on barge 1145A. Unknown number of tanks, believed to be 10 Mark V's and/or VI's, and three 75-mm AT guns reported R-145168 and vic DRUSENHEIM.

XV Corps: 776th TD Bn OP reported five tanks vic Q-617544 at 1430A. 44th Div Inf reported four tanks in woods vic Q-613557 at 1520A. 44th Div Arty reported seven tanks vic Q-634559 at 1400A and one tank vic Q-623557 at 1520A. These reports may or may not be the same tanks. 614th TD Bn reported one tank at Q-514610 at 1200A.

(2) Artillery.

In the VI Corps sector enemy arty activity continued to increase during period, aided by poor visibility which restricted our AOP's. Most fire was directed into the 45th Div sector, especially on our attacking inf in the draws west of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-7937). Night harassing fire also increased, though concentrations vic WINDSTEIN, WILMENAU (Q-7634), WEYERSHEIM (R-0512), and LEMBACH were generally light, varying from 10-20 rounds. HAGUENAU received several rounds of heavy caliber fire, estimated 280-mm, around midnight. Though not heavy, shelling in the 79th Div sector increased slightly, with rear areas, including some of our arty positions, being taken under fire. Targets also included HUNSPACH (R-1539), SOULTZ-SOUS FORETS (R-1138), and the OBERBETCHSDORF area (R-1233). Enemy supported resistance in bridgehead sector with light concentrations vic DRUSENHEIM (R-1618) during the day. The outstanding characteristic of period, however, was intermittent harassing fire laid on our inf in draws west of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-7937), between 1140A and 1500A. Approximately 300 rounds, all of light caliber, fell in this region, and the coordinated nature of the mission was evident from various directions of fire, indicating several batteries located vic Q-7940 and Q-8343. PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) area received light, infrequent harassing fire, including both light and medium caliber. Estimated 280-mm caliber shelling of HAGUENAU yielded a groove bearing, which, since these calibers are usually railroad guns, indicates that the gun is located on the rail net vic GERMERSHEIM (R-4769) which is favorable for operation of this type of arty. From PW reports and lack of shelling on XV Corps front, it is believed that some of these guns, formerly located on XV Corps front, have pulled out, and there is a possibility that they have reappeared on VI Corps front.

In XV Corps sector, activity continued relatively quiet throughout the night of 6-7 Jan., only activity consisting 30 rounds on troops vic Q-5954 at 2100A. Fifteen rounds on troops vic Q-6848 at 0530A. However, in early daylight hours, activity rose sharply to about same heavy level which prevailed before lull. Activity mainly directed against front-line troops in 36th and 100th Div sectors, with scattered shelling received by front-line elmts of 44th and 103rd Divs. Road harassment consisted of 25 rounds of 17-cm on road vic Q-658456 at 0845A, 20 more fell at 0955A. Town of RIMLING (Q-6555) was hit by 30 rounds at 1245A. NEUNKIRCH (Q-5358) received about 40 rounds around noon and light harassing fires of a few rounds fell in each of the following: HOTTVILLER (Q-7353), GROS-REDERCHING (Q-6252), and HOELLING (Q-6752). Photo cover 5 Jan. showed withdrawal of arty from 26 locations which were occupied 2 Jan. A good part of this arty believed now appearing in XV Corps sector--in general area to north, east, and southeast of BITCHE (Q-7750).

(3) Aviation.

No enemy air activity was reported over Army area.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In RHINE sector, enemy launched tank and inf attack against DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) and ROHRWILLER (R-1217) in morning, and lost

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3 tanks south of latter town. Later in day enemy held southern part of DRUSENHEIM with one Bn inf supported by 8-10 tanks or SPs. Attack on roadblock vic R-2323 repulsed. Arty light and scattered with one round, believed from heavy RR gun, falling in HAGUENAU. Vehicular movement heard in several towns on 79th Div front at 0500A. By 0930A aggressive patrolling and tanks had forced friendly outposts to withdraw from vic R-1044 and from ASBACH (R-1837) and STUNDWILLER (R-1836). Five subsequent enemy attacks in the STUNDWILLER area were supported by a total of 15 tanks. All were repulsed and 5 tanks destroyed. 45th Div patrols found southern half of DAMBACH (Q-9244) unoccupied but reported vehicular movement in town at 0400A. WINGEN (Q-7335) and pocket east of LICHTENBERG (Q-8136) cleared but there was fighting in eastern part of WINGEN during first half of period as small groups of 20 to 40 enemy attempted to infiltrate through lines of troops surrounding town. Advancing elmts encountered heavy resistance from platoon on high ground vic Q-8336 and enemy offered stiff opposition to all advances throughout the sector.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

The XV Corps front was quiet with little patrol or arty activity reported. The 36th Div noted some tank and vehicular movement in both directions along road vic Q-756437. There was a slight increase in arty activity against 100th Div, but enemy continued digging in along the front. The 44th Div received only moderate arty fire. Some activity noted vic MORONVILLE Farm (Q-6555) where enemy garrison is est. 200 men. In remainder of Corps sector, enemy is reported to be defensive but alert.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

TAC/R was grounded by bad weather. F/B mission observed few scattered vehicles. VI Corps AOP reported tanks and SPs on both sides of RHINE and tank crossing river on barge vic GAMBESHEIM (R-1110) at 1145A.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.(1) RHINE Bridgehead.

Reliable officer PW states von der BACH responsible for establishment of bridgehead across RHINE. Mission of bridgehead was to cut off withdrawing American forces from LAUTERBOURG area. No large offensive planned from across RHINE. 553 VG Div under command XIV Corps. One bn of Regt. ZEIFANG participated in crossing. (Comment: By deduction, equated with 1120 GR.)

b. PW's Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 061800A to 071300A Jan: 462 (including 11 deserters and 14 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 071800A Jan: 131,274. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

c. Weather Forecast.

9 Jan: Intermittent snow showers in afternoon, broken sky. Visibility 6-10 miles. Wind west 15-20 mph. Min. temp. 18° F.

10 Jan: Clear at dawn, increasing cloudiness afternoon and night. Visibility 1-2 miles at dawn, improving to 3-4 miles by noon. Light northwesterly winds. Continued cold, with minimum temperature 15° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

Sec G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN
Colonel, G.S.C.,
A. C. of S., G-2

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Copy No. 26Ref. No. X-151G-2 REPORT
 From: 072400A Jan 1945
 To : 082400A Jan 1945

 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 090600A January 1945

No. 147.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
 b. Units in Contact. (See attached map).

(1) New Identifications.(a) First French Army.E-V Regt.1st Bn.435 Repl. Bn.460 Repl. Bn.

- vic. GAMBSHEIM (R-1110).

(b) VI U.S. Corps.21 Pz. Div.125 P.G.R.1st Bn.2nd Bn.192 P.G.R.Elmts 2nd Bn.220 Pz. Engr Bn.245 Volks Gren. Div.Elmts. 937 GR - vic. R-1114.

- in 79th Div sector,

(c) XV U.S. Corps.410 Volks Arty Corps - in 100th Div. sector.(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 125 P.G.R.

PW states entire 125 PGR vic. STUNDWILLER (R-1836).

(b) 553 VG Div.

CP 553 VG Div. at MALSCH (R-4431), according to PW.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Along RHINE River, Nineteenth Army continued on the offensive, but at dark situation appeared somewhat improved, with KRAFT (V-9780) being reported clear. Attacks early in period on ROSSFELD (V-9171) and NERLISHEIM (V-9272) were beaten off. Later in day enemy launched strong inf attack supported by 14 tanks against SAND (V-9075). DAUBENSAND (V-9972), RHINAU (V-9769), and FRIESENHEIM (V-9568) reported occupied by enemy. Enemy crossed RHINE in barges vic OTTENHEIM (W-0176). Estimate enemy employing four bns of inf and 23 tanks in this sector. In SELESTAT sector, strong enemy patrol reached southeast part of town. Unusual amount of activity noted in woods southeast of town. In COLMAR area considerable MT traffic noted between COLMAR and WINTZENHEIM (V-6741) and between COLMAR and INGERSHEIM (V-6844). However, friendly troops, in limited objective attack northwest of COLMAR, advanced 1½ km. against only moderate opposition.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

Enemy continued to reflect an offensive attitude but attacks have not reached the scale of those launched earlier in the month. In the GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) area, there were indications the enemy was building up his forces; however, only miscellaneous units continue to be identified. To the northwest, in ASCHBACH (R-1837) area, 21st Pz. Div. made several unsuccessful and costly attacks, later withdrawing to assembly area vic. OBERSEEBACH (R-1640), where it was further embarrassed by friendly air attack. In HARDT Mountains, enemy now well supported by arty, provided strong opposition to

- 1 -

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friendly attacks along southern bulge of salient. In SAAR Valley, 17th SS P.G. Div. reassumed the offensive but was contained after effecting slight penetration of forward positions vic of RIMLING (Q-6555). Remainder of Army front was reported quiet.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

Enemy in XX Corps sector remained quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps sector, tanks of 21st Pz Div were active in support of the division's unsuccessful attacks. Attack at 0700A vic ASCHBACH was supported by 10 tanks, two of which were KO'd. At noon 12 enemy tanks were in the OBERSEEBACH (R-1840) area. Seven tanks at R-1638 and 3 tanks at R-1737 were engaged by arty. In HARDT Mountains, 45th Div reports tanks in groups of three's were observed.

In XV Corps sector, tanks of 17th SS PG Div. were also active, 5 to 6 of which were reported in the BRANDELFINGERHOFF Farm (Q-6154) - BELLEVUE Farm (Q-6355) area. Six to 10 tanks were operating vic RIMLING (Q-6555).

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps sector, enemy arty fire, though rather frequent, was scattered and generally light to moderate during period. Exception being fire from two to four 105-mm hows, believed to be located in the MOUTENHOUSE (Q-7942) - BAERENTHAL (Q-8342) area, which were active throughout period shelling friendly positions in draws west of REIPERTSWILLER, with an approximate total of 400 rounds. Five times during the night and about 15 times during the day, this area was hit with concentrations varying from 4 to 40 rounds. Other night activity included harassment of the PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) area with 25 rounds medium caliber, probable tank or SP shelling of the front line vic HOFFEN (R-1536) and DRUSENHEIM, and rear area harassment vic INGWILLER (Q-8130), ROTHACK (Q-8434) and SOULTZ (R-1037). Attacking elements in the GAMBESHEIM bridgehead sector and in the HOFFEN (R-1536) area received light harassing fire during the day. Two enemy counter-attacks in the REIPERTSWILLER area were supported by considerably more concentrated and prolonged fire than usual.

In XV Corps zone, the active policy of the enemy's arty continued, although poor visibility toward end of period brought the tempo down. At 0330A, friendly troops in vic RIMLING (Q-6555) and GROS-REDERCHING (Q-6252) reported receiving heavy concentration of arty and rocket fire. A F.A. Bn in position received 30 rounds estimated 170-mm, believed to be counter-battery fire. WEISVILLER (Q-5853) and WOELFLING (Q-5954) were heavily shelled at 1350A. SOUCHET (Q-7040) received 30 rounds of harassing fire between 0530A and 0600A. At 0930A, troops in vic of Q-745462 received between 60 and 80 rounds. The town of LEMBERG (Q-7344) was harassed between 0830A and 1130A with 63 rounds of medium caliber.

(3) Aviation.

Enemy air activity continued on a reduced scale, with only three hostile missions in RHINE Valley reported. RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) was strafed while INGWILLER (Q-8130) was bombed.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

Along RHINE River, enemy offered strong resistance to attack in DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) area, and friendly troops were unable to establish bridgehead over MODER River south of town due to heavy enemy fire. Enemy's attempts to cross the MODER River vic R-1316 and R-1417 were repulsed. Considerable vehicular and tank movement reported in DRUSENHEIM and HERRLISHEIM (R-1214) area. In 79th Div sector, enemy continued on the offense. At 0700A inf attack with armor support on ASCHBACH (R-1837) was repulsed. At 0815A enemy tried again, this time with 10 tanks supporting, but met with same results. Persistent attacks in the same area throughout morning were all repulsed with heavy enemy casualties. Enemy later withdrew to OBERSEEBACH (R-1840) for reorganization. Friendly patrol to CLEEBOURG (R-1144) drew heavy SA fire. Early in period, 45th Div reported evidence of enemy build-up in PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) area, but late in evening enemy remained quiet there, and at DAMBACH

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(Q-9244) and BAERENTHAL (Q-8342) areas. Enemy from well organized positions provided strong resistance to attack in area northwest of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) and area east of MEISENTHAL (Q-7140). North of WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) enemy made two unsuccessful counter-attacks in platoon strength.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

36th Div reported little enemy activity their front. Friendly troops in limited objective attack north of LEMBERG (Q-7344) met only light opposition. In 100th Div sector, enemy force consisting of two armored inf companies, one howitzer company, and one mortar platoon, launched attack along line RIMLING (Q-6555) southwest to Q-6453. Attack succeeded in penetrating forward position, and at close of period fighting was continuing in west part of RIMLING, where an estimated 200 infantrymen, supported by 6 tanks, were engaged. At 1100A, two enemy companies attacking from GUIDERKIRCH (Q-6656) were dispersed. Another two-company counterattack vic Q-7447 met with no success. 44th Div reports that at 0330A an attack by unestimated number of inf south of BELLEVUE Farms (Q6054) was repulsed. Throughout remainder of period enemy remained quiet. The 103rd Div sector was quiet and the 106th Cav Group reported no enemy activity their front.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

Inclement weather limited aerial reconnaissance during period. One flight into ERSTEIN (V-9480) - COLMAR area made no significant observation. Flights at 1000A and 1145A observed no crossings or bridges between STRASBOURG and KARLSRUHE. Two concentrations of tanks reported at 1100A - one of 11 tanks vic Q-7754 and one of 10 tanks with 20 MT or HD vehicles vic Q-8949.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PW Statements.

(1) 937th GR.

PWs from 937th GR stated their mission was to keep the road clear for 21st Pz. Div.

b. PW's Taken.

PW's processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 071800A to 081800A Jan: 284 (including 3 deserters and 39 wounded). Estimated grand total PW's processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 081800A Jan: 131,558. (Including 49,150 PW's taken by First French Army, 3,692 PW's taken by FABTF, 379 PW's taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PW's taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

c. Weather Forecast.

10 Jan: Scattered to broken clouds, no precipitation. Visibility 1-2 miles at dawn, improving to 6 miles after 1000A. Wind west 6 mph. Minimum temperature 16° F.

11 Jan: Broken clouds with occasional overcast conditions and intermittent snow. Visibility 1-2 miles in snow, 5-7 miles elsewhere. Wind westerly 8-10 mph. Minimum temperature 18° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN, *W2*
Colonel, G.S.C.,
A. C. of S., G-2.

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G-2 REPORT

From: 082400A Jan 45
To : 092400A Jan 45

Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
100600A January 1945

No. 148.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

b. Units in Contact. (See attached map).

(1) New Identifications.

(a) VI U.S. Corps.

6th SS Mountain Div.

Elmts. 6th SS Mountain Arty Regt. - vic. Q-7940.

25th PG Div.

Elmts. 35th PGR.

Elmts. 119th PGR.

25th Pz. Engr. Bn.

} - vic. HATTEN (R-1834).

36th Inf. Div.

Elmts. 118th GR - vic. PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8843).

361st VG Div.

Elmts. 952nd GR

Elmts. 953rd GR

} - in 45th Div. sector.

553rd VG Div.

Elmts. 1119 VG Regt.

Elmts. 1121 VG Regt.

} - in RHINE Bridgehead.

Elmts. 2nd SS Police Regt.

- vic. HERNLISHEIM (R-1215).

1127th Fortress Arty Bn.

- vic. DRUSENHEIM (R-1618).

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

19th Inf. Div.

59th Gr

1st Bn. - vic. Q-7445.

559th VG Div.

Elmts. 1559 Engr. Bn. - vic. Q-7445.

404th Volks Arty. Corps. - in 100th Div. sector.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.

a. General Summary.

(1) First French Army.

In I Corps sector, enemy raid against LUTTERBACH (V-6606), following arty preparation, repulsed. In II Corps sector enemy surrounded ROSSFELD (V-9171) early in period but friendly counter-attack broke the ring later in day. Enemy pressure against SAND continued throughout period; early attacks were repulsed, but were being renewed at end of period. BOOFZHEIM (V-9670) occupied by enemy. Smoke screen observed east of SELESTAT (V-7962) and OSTHEIM (V-7351). Six enemy tanks reported destroyed.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

25th Pz. Gren. Div. joined in the attacks against the U.S. front north of HAGUENAU Forest and met with some success beyond HATTEN (R-1733) before being forced back by U.S. counterattacks. Of 15-20 enemy tanks supporting the offensive, 12 were destroyed. U.S. attack on enemy bridgehead west of RHINE met strong resistance vic HERNLESHEIM (R-1214) but succeeded in retaking large part of town. Enemy continues to offer stubborn resistance from dug-in positions on southern tip of his HARDT Mountain salient. In the eastern SAAR Valley, a strong attack on RIMLING (Q-6555) was in progress at end of period.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps front quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.

(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps sector, elmts of the 25th PGD attacked with 7

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tanks vic R-1832 at 0510A. Attack was repulsed by 0940A, with 2 tanks destroyed. 1 enemy tank or SP gun knocked out on road R-1214 - R-1518 at 0930A. At 1200A, 15 tanks at R-1633, of which 9 were destroyed. At 1400A, one SP gun reported at R-1720. At 1200A, 1 tank destroyed at R-184328. At 1620A, 2 tanks at Q-7639 fired on by arty with unknown results. All reports total to about 15-20 tanks with 12 known destroyed.

Enemy armor operating in XV Corps zone comprised six SPs or assault guns in woods vic Q-6856, 5 to 7 tanks western section RIMLING (Q-6555), 3 of which are known to have been destroyed, and 10 to 14 tanks vic of MARONVILLE'S Farm (Q-6355).

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps: With the launching of a vigorous attack in our right sector and our own aggressive action against the bridgehead, enemy arty activity increased considerably, particularly in the volume of fire. Shelling decreased slightly in the 45th Div sector, but in the 79th Div sector the attack was supported by a decided increase in fire. Harassing fire during the night was generally light with the INGWILLER (Q-8130), ROTHBACH (Q-3434) and WIMMENAU (Q-7634) areas being shelled. A few rounds of heavy caliber, now positively identified as 28-cm, fell in the BISCHWILLER (R-0918) area around midnight. After daylight the enemy began to shell RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1534) and HATTEN (R-1733) in support of his attack, but it was during the middle hours of the day that the fire reached its peak, when our positions in the LEITERSWILLER - RITTERSHOFFEN - HATTEN triangle were frequently pounded by light and medium calibers, the concentrations usually varying from 20 to 40 rounds, although some heavy concentrations were reported around noon. In the bridgehead sector, the DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) and ROHWILLER (R-1217) areas, which received the bulk of the fire, were pounded with heavy concentrations in the late morning. In the afternoon, shelling in the 79th Div sector slackened, but in the 45th Div sector, which had been comparatively quiet, activity began to pick up at mid-day. Thereafter until 1700A the enemy placed intermittent light caliber harassing concentrations, including one of 60 rounds at 1420A, in the draws of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037). GUMBRECHTSHOFFEN (Q-9233) drew 2 rounds of very heavy caliber at 1535A. The arty supporting the attack in our right sector appears to be grouped in the OBERSEEBACH (R-1941) - TRIBACH (R-2138) area (light calibers), with mediums in the SCHLEITHAL (R-2143) - SALMBACH (R-2442) area. The RIEDELSELTZ (R-1543) area is also believed to be active, although no locations there have yet been obtained.

Enemy arty in the XV Corps zone was fairly quiet during the early part of the period, but increased to a fast tempo by late afternoon. Troops vic Q-7447 were harassed between 0200A and 0500A with 27 rounds of estimated 15-cm. GROS REDERCHING (Q-6252) was harassed at 0800A. Vic of GUISEBEG (Q-6552) received 20 rounds, light caliber arty, between 1106A and 1125A and 10 more rounds at 1510A. LEMBERG (Q-7344) was harassed again with 250 rounds between 0430A and 1730A. Troops vic Q-7154 received 30 rounds between 1040A and 1105A. HOTTVILLE (Q-7253) was harassed with 10 rounds at 1430A and 10 more at 1448A. Several battery positions were hit during the period. A position vic of Q-6346 received 2 rounds 88-mm at 1603A, 15 rounds of 15-cm at 1610A, and 20 rounds of 88-mm and 17-cm at 1610A. An OP of the 182nd FA Bn reported receiving 70 rounds of all calibers from 88-mm to 17-cm during the day.

(3) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

Elements of 553rd Inf Div offered strong resistance in the RHINE bridgehead, but by end of period friendly forces had reoccupied larger part of HERLESHEIM (R-1214). Strong SA, mortar and arty fire hampered friendly bridging operations vic R-1316. In the U.S. 79th Div sector an inf attack early in the morning vic R-1836 was repulsed before reaching the friendly MLR. Simultaneously an attack toward HATTEN (R-1733), in which inf of 25th PG Div were supported by 7 tanks, forced a temporary withdrawal vic R-1833; attack was dispersed and ground regained by 0940A, with 2 enemy tanks destroyed and heavy casualties inflicted on his inf. However, the attack was resumed at 1300A with inf being supported by 15-20 tanks and an estimated 50 other vehicles. The enemy surrounded HATTEN and succeeded

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in penetrating beyond it to a point south of RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533). U.S. counterattack to restore position had destroyed at least 10 tanks by end of period and had recovered half of HATTEN. 45th Div elmts were in close contact with enemy defending high ground at Q-8137, Q-8038 and Q-7938; enemy dug-in positions here were supported by arty, mortar and SP fire.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

36th Div repulsed an estimated enemy bn attacking vic Q-7445 at 0700A; throughout the balance of the period the zone was very quiet. In the 100th Div zone, vic Q-7448, an attack was launched at the same time by an estimated 60 inf and was also repulsed. However, at RIMLING (Q-6555) what appeared to be an all-out effort to take the town developed later in the day, and was still in progress at the end of the period. Enemy inf was inactive throughout the rest of the Corps zone.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

The only successful TAC/R mission reported 4 barges, 20 x 15 ft., on the east bank of the RHINE between R-1714 - R-1717. Weather prevented observation of vehicle or rail movement.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 081800A to 091800A Jan: 211 (including 5 deserters). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 091800A Jan: 131,769. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

b. Weather Forecast.

11 Jan: Partly cloudy throughout day, with increasing cloudiness in afternoon. Few snow squalls over VOSGES throughout day and light snow at night. Visibility 3 miles at dawn, improving to 6-8 miles in afternoon, lowering to 1-2 miles at night in snow. Wind westerly 5-7 mph. Continued cold. Minimum temperature 20° F.

12 Jan: Light, steady snow until midmorning, with light snow showers thereafter. Overcast low clouds in morning, becoming broken in afternoon. Visibility ½-1 mile until 1100A, improving to 3-5 miles. Wind northerly 6-10 mph. Minimum temperature 26° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN C 143
 Colonel, G.S.C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2

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Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
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Copy No. 26Ref. No. X-195

G-2 REPORT

From: 092400A Jan 45
 To : 102400A Jan 45

Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 110600A January 1945

No. 149.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
- b. Units in Contact. (See attached map).
 - (1) New Identifications.
 - (a) VI U.S. Corps.
 6th SS Mountain Division.
 Elmts 11th SS Mtn Regt. REINHARD HEYDRICH - vic Q-7937.
 - (2) Organization and Strength.
 - (a) 17th SS PG Div.
 Officer PW stated CP 17th SS PG Div at NEU ALTHEIM (Q-6763).
 - (b) 13th SS Corps.
 CP 13th SS Corps located at SCHEIDT vic Q-5172.
 - (c) 553rd VG Div.
 CG 553rd Div is Genmaj. HUETER (or HUETEKER) and NOT,
 as previously reported, UTEKER.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.

- a. General Summary.
 - (1) First French Army.
 In I Corps zone heavy SA and arty fire received vic KEMBS (A-8298) and LOCHLE (A-8395). Farther north, in II Corps zone, enemy continues to be aggressive. Friendly troops forced out of GERSTHEIM (V-9775) and strong enemy pressure continues against OBENHEIM (V-9673). Enemy estimated at Bn. strength in vic of KRAFT (V-9779) with some armor, and pressure continues strong. Fighting continues vic SAND (V-9176). HERBSHEIM (V-9272) heavily shelled. Apparently enemy continues to cross RHINE in vic of OTTENHEIM (W-0176). Enemy tanks reported cruising in area between ROSSFELD (V-9171), HUTTENHEIM (V-8873) and HERBSHEIM. Sound of motor movement throughout night in MUTTERHOLTZ (V-8563) region. In GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) bridgehead area, enemy patrols active vic KILSTETT (R-0808). Sound of tanks heard vic GAMBSHEIM during morning.
 - (2) Seventh U.S. Army.
 The enemy continued to offer strong resistance in the bridgehead area SE of BISCHWILLER (R-0818) and showed aggressiveness early in period with inf attack supported by two SP guns SE of ROHRWILLER vic R-1316, which was repulsed. U.S. Bn. surrounded in HERRLISHEIM (R-1214) early in day contacted by friendly troops, and bitter fighting for town continued throughout period. Air OP reported 12 enemy tanks in general area late in afternoon. Stiff resistance continued in HATTEN (R-1733) with inf supported by armor, but enemy appeared to be withdrawing east from town at close of period. In HARDT Mountains, strong resistance continues on outskirts of ALTHORN (Q-7540) and along high ground in region north of REIPERTSVILLER (Q-8036). North of ALTHORN enemy harassed our forward elements with small scale attacks and arty fire. Enemy apparently busy consolidating his gains in RIEHLING (Q-6555) area and demonstrated a defensive attitude along line west of this point. South of FORBACH (Q-3865) advance met generally light resistance, and counterattack of estimated platoon strength repulsed late in day.
 - (3) Third U.S. Army.
 In the XX Corps zone the enemy remained generally quiet.
- b. Operations of Component Elements.
 - (1) Armored Force.
 In VI Corps zone enemy armor continued active. Three enemy tanks reported vic R-1833. Unknown number of tanks heard vic R-2030.

- 1 -

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One enemy tank knocked out in HERRLISHEIM at 1145A and one out of group of five destroyed vic R-1315 by arty at the same time. One tank in HATTEN, approximately 1100A, knocked out by bazooka. Another tank, 600 yds NE of town, knocked out by tank fire. Unknown number of tanks reported vic R-2034 in edge of woods this afternoon. Twelve tanks, type unknown, east of HATTEN vic R-1833 at 1830A. At 0548A, three tanks heard at Q-8441 fired on by arty with one believed damaged. Enemy tanks vic Q-7939. One enemy tank disabled by arty fire vic Q-7839 during afternoon.

In XV Corps zone, five tanks observed vic Q-7549. Two tanks vic Q-7551 at 1245A. Two tanks observed vic Q-6355 at 0950A. One tank vic Q-6454 at 1130A.

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps: The battle in the three critical sectors on the Corps front brought continued increase in arty activity as enemy supported his defense in the mountains, the bridgehead area, and attack in the HOFFEN (R-1536) - HATTEN (R-1733) area. The heaviest fire covered his attack, with the next heaviest in the 45th Div sector, and considerable fire in the bridgehead sector. In most cases our forward inf elmts, as yesterday, were the targets. Harassing fire during night was much greater than usual, with heavy shelling west of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037), frequent fire in the HOFFEN - HATTEN area, and scattered concentrations vic ROTHBACH (Q-8434) and along the bridgehead perimeter. During day heavy concentrations, consisting of 50-200 rounds of mixed calibers, fell in HOFFEN - NIEDERBETSCHDORF (R-1233) - HATTEN triangle, also on attacking inf north of WINGEN (Q-7435) and vic of WILDENGUTH (Q-7838), with KURTZENHAUSEN (R-0515) west of the bridgehead receiving 100 rounds at 1030A. In this sector, HERRLISHEIM (R-1214), DRUSENHEIM (R-1518), BISCHWILLER (R-0818), and the ROHRWILLER (R-1217) bridge were all shelled in the most active period between 1000A and 1700A. PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) area received 70 rounds 75-mm caliber between 0830A and 1030A. Air OP adjustments indicate bulk of enemy arty supporting attack is grouped along line OBERSEEBACH (R-1840) - TRUBACH (R-2038) - EBERBACH (R-2436). The most active area supporting the bridgehead sector appears to be in vic of LICHTENAU (R-2014).

XV Corps: Activity remained moderate until 1100A when it mounted to the high peak of previous day's shelling and continued at this rate until close of period. LEIBERG (Q-7375) continually harassed throughout period. A total of 186 rounds fell between 0130A and 1520A. The highest concentration reported was 30 rounds of medium arty between 0305A and 0313A. SARREINSBERG (Q-7441) harassed with two rounds of heavy arty between 1145A and 1150A. The town again shelled at 1335A and 1445A by 29 rounds of light arty. ENCHENBERG (Q-7046), HOTTVILLER (Q-7253) and SARREGUEMINES (Q-5156) received light harassing fire during period. Several friendly arty position areas received harassing fires. Front line elmts in 36th, 100th, and 44th Div sectors received harassing fires throughout day. No activity reported in 103rd Div sector.

(3) Aviation.

Enemy aircraft active on a small scale over Army area, with some jet propelled planes employed. At 1209A, 4 ME 262's and 2 ME 109's bombed and strafed vic SURBOURG (R-0834) and SOULTZ (R-1137). One enemy aircraft destroyed. Two ME 262's bombed and strafed in same area again at 1405A. One ME 410 vic Q-9020 and one ME 262 vic R-0020 late in afternoon, probably on reconnaissance missions.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In RHINE River bridgehead elmts of 553rd Inf Div continued to offer strong resistance and showed some aggressiveness during period. Attack at 0130A, vic bridge R-1316, repulsed after 2 hour engagement with undetermined number of inf and 2 SP guns. Enemy pressure consisting of inf, arty, 4 to 6 tanks, and heavy SA fire, prevented U.S. Bn. withdrawing from HERRLISHEIM, and enemy surrounded town. Contact finally made by friendly units outside town, and heavy fighting continued in HERRLISHEIM where considerable arty and mortar fire received. Early in period enemy reinforced hold on HATTEN with 3 tanks and unknown number of inf, and strong resistance

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supported by armor continued in HATTEN. However, enemy appeared to be withdrawing East at end of period. Ft. LOUIS (R-2322) occupied by enemy. During night heavy motor traffic between RIEDSELTZ (R-1543) and INGOLSHEIM (R-1441), STUNDWILLER (R-1836), BUHL (R-1935) and EICHELGAUTEN (R-2230). In 45th Div zone increased vehicular activity in MELCH (Q-7840) and on North-South road from WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) during forenoon. Strong resistance continued SW of ALTHORN. Advance encountered strong opposition from entrenched enemy on hill vic Q-7839 and generally along high ground vic Q-8138 - Q-8338. Activity NEUNHOFFEN (Q-9146) - DAMBACH (Q-9244) area subsided by daylight. Enemy withdrew from roadblock vic Q-8237.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

In 36th Div zone small inf attacks harassed friendly forward elmts. Later in day sector quiet with only light and scattered harassing arty fire reported. On 100th Div front an estimated bn. dug in vic Q-7548, supported by mortar fire from vic REYERSWILLER (Q-7549) and SP fire from north of town. Small attack vic Q-7547 repulsed. Inf bn. reported entrenched vic Q-7448 - Q-7547. Strong SA, AW and mortar resistance encountered vic Q-7349 and Q-7449. 44th Div front generally quiet. In 103rd Div zone, negligible enemy resistance met during advance until general line Q-3763, Q-3863, Q-4063, Q-4262 was reached. Enemy counterattack of estimated platoon size, from vic Q-3964, repulsed. SA, arty and MG fire received from vic Q-3963 and from north of BEHNEN (Q-4263). Mortar fire received from OETING (Q-4064) and sniper fire from PETITE ROSSELLE (Q-3668), and edge of woods vic Q-3666. In zone of 106th Cav. Gp., patrols encountered heavy MG fire from vic Q-3370. Enemy not aggressive this area.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

Only 3 TAC/R missions flown. 20 MT stationary facing North vic ARZENHEIM (V-8546) - MARCKOLSHEIM (V-8551). Very little other MT movement observed in COLLAR pocket. F/B's reported 50 plus vehicles, including estimated 20 tanks, in woods vic V-9856 at 0930A. Light MT movement observed west from WORMS (H-4515) - KAISERSLAUTERN (R-0393) - SAARBRUCKEN (Q-4669) and some south from ST. WENDEL (Q-5996) - HOLBURG (Q-7080). Little or no rail activity reported on the KAISERSLAUTERN - WORMS rail axis or on lines south from BAD-KREUZNACH (H-0938).

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. RHINE Bridges.

No bridges observed over RHINE from BREISACH (V-8836) (RR bridge now intact) to MAXIMILIANSAU (R-4048) (this bridge now intact).

b. SS STANDARTENFUHRER HANS LINGNER, CO, 17 SS PG Div GOETZ VON BERLICHINGEN.

At 0430A, 29-year-old SS STANDARTENFUHRER (SS Colonel) HANS LINGNER was captured by 44th U.S. Div. in the vic of REILING (Q-6555), accompanied by his Aide and Sergeant Chauffeur. He had been promoted to his present rank about one month ago, when he assumed command of that div. His previous appointments were C/S of 1st SS Pz. Div., C/S of 10th SS Pz. Div., and C/S of 17th SS PG Div. HANS LINGNER has been serving in the SS for the past 10 years; he is thoroughly imbued with the doctrines of Nazism. According to SHAEF, he is the first SS divisional commander, in action, captured on the Western Front.

c. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 091800A to 101800A Jan: 369 (including 14 deserters and 48 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 101800A Jan: 132,138. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

d. Weather Forecast.

12 Jan: Increasing high and intermediate clouds, scattered low clouds. Cloudy at night. Very light snow flurries near sunset. Visibility 6-8 miles. Wind northeast 10 mph. Minimum temperature 5° F.

13 Jan: Partly cloudy throughout day, clearing at night. Visibility 2-3 miles during day, lowering to 1 mile or less at night. Wind NE 7-9 mph. Continued cold. Minimum temp. 10° F.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

Sec G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN *mm*
 Colonel, G.S.C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2

- 1 Encl:
 Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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 To : 112400A Jan 45

 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 120600 January 1945

No. 150.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements. - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
 b. Units in Contact. (See attached map).

(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.25th PG Div.125th Pz. Rcn. Bn.25th Pz. Engr. Bn.6th SS Mtn. Div.11th SS Mtn. Regt.2nd Bn.3rd Bn.6th SS Engr Bn.6th SS Rcn. Bn.

- vic. HATTEN (R-1733).

- vic. Q-7838.

- vic. Q-7638.

(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 107th Pz. Brig.

Diary of wounded PW indicates 107th Pz. Brig. incorporated into 25th PG Div. and was stationed in BITCHE 24 Dec.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

In Northern sector, pressure exerted by Nineteenth Army continued strong, and friendly garrison at OBENHEIM (V-9673), surrounded by enemy inf and tanks, was forced to capitulate. Garrisons at ROSSFELD (V-9171) and HERBSHEIM (V-9272), which had been surrounded, were disengaged by efforts of friendly armor. Enemy attack on BENFELD (V-8974) was repulsed. Enemy in KRAFFT (V-9780) area quieted down but an estimated bn remains in woods south of town vic V-9678. Bulk of enemy armor appears to have withdrawn from contact. 269th Div, formerly in VOSGES, now reported out of contact. PWs report SS div in COLLAR area, and further speak of projected attack along axis SELESTAT - BARR (V-8079) and BENFELD - BARR. In VOSGES and South RHINE Valley, only normal patrol activity reported.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

In RHINE bridgehead area, the 553rd Div was quiet. Farther north, the 25th PG Div, who had flunked at HATTEN (Q-1833) two days previous, resumed the offensive in the same area, this time with a bit more success. Identifications late in period indicated 21st Pz Div had also joined battle in the RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) area. In HARDT Mountains, 6th SS Mtn Div also joined in the attack, making some progress before noon, but its efforts appeared to have been contained at dark. In SAAR Valley and west to Army boundary, enemy remained generally quiet.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

Enemy in XX Corps sector was reported quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps, armor of the 25th PG Div was much in evidence supporting the division's efforts in the HATTEN area. A total of 21-23 tanks were observed here during the day, 6 of which were reported knocked out. At RITTERSHOFFEN, 4 Mk IV's and 2 Mk V's were reported; with one claimed destroyed. PW from 5th Tank Bn. (25th PG Div) stated his Bn had 40 tanks.

XV Corps reports no armor activity in their sector, although

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one tank, probably from 17th SS PG Div, was observed in the MARANVILLER Farm (Q-6355) area.

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps. Due perhaps to poor visibility, the enemy's arty activity decreased somewhat during period, particularly in weight of concentrations, though the fire may still be characterized as moderate to heavy. Of the three critical sectors, the HARDT Mtns received about the same as previous period; the RHINE Valley, though still receiving the heaviest volume, decreased slightly; and the bridgehead sector decreased considerably. Peculiarly enough, the bridgehead sector received all its shelling during the night, for none was reported after 0600A. After sparing the WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) region during the night, the enemy attempted to prevent counterattacks to his early morning advance by throwing frequent 30-round concentrations into this area between 1000A and 1200A. In the early afternoon, fire shifted into the PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) and SE of BAERENTHAL (Q-8442) areas, and arty in the vic of WINGEN (Q-7335) was counterbattered. The HOFFEN (R-1536) - NIEDERBITSCHDORF (R-1233) - HATTEN triangle received the bulk of the fire in the 79th Div sector, and some counterbattery fire was placed on friendly arty west of NIEDERBITSCHDORF. In late afternoon, fire in all sectors dropped off considerably. The most active arty areas continued to be the MOUTERHOUSE (Q-7942) - BAERENTHAL - EGUELSHARDT (Q-8247) - WALDECK (Q-8446) and the OBERSEEBACH (R-1840) - TRIMBACH (R-2037) - EBERBACH (R-2436) areas.

XV Corps: Enemy arty activity decreased in volume and intensity along the entire Corps front, with the exception of the LEMBERG (Q-7344) and SARREINSBERG (Q-7441) areas, which continued to receive large concentrations at sporadic intervals. In the 36th Div sector, forward clmts in vic Q-7541 received a 40-round concentration at 1215A, followed by 30 rounds at 1255A. During evening, 36th Div executed ren by fire, which provoked strong enemy arty reaction on LEMBERG and SARREINSBERG, latter town receiving approximately 220 rounds. 50 to 60 rounds of Nebelwerfer fire landed in the vic of the crossroads at Q-587559. The bulk of the fires in the 44th and 100th Div sectors were harassing fires of two to six rounds on forward troops and crossroads. No activity was reported in the zones of the 103rd Div and 106th Cav Gp.

(3) Aviation.

No enemy air activity reported during period.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In 79th Div sector, enemy resumed the offensive, again in the HATTEN area, where a small penetration of the main battle position was effected. Attack was preceded and supported by heavy arty and mortar barrage, with tank support in the background. Early in period, inf and tanks infiltrated into the east portion of RITTERSHOFFEN, and at dark enemy continued to apply pressure here and at HATTEN. Farther south, 30 enemy were reported in LEUTENHEIM (R-2027) but patrols indicated ALENHEIM (R-2023) and RUNTZENHEIM (R-1924) were clear of enemy. In bridgehead area, close contact was maintained, but enemy was not aggressive. HEURLISHEIM (R-1214) was evacuated by friendly troops. 45th Div reports that enemy in the WILDENGUTH (Q-7838) area reverted from the defensive, and at 0730A launched an attack initially estimated at a bn in strength. Attack succeeded, by noon, in cutting the WILDENGUTH - ROTHBACH road vic Q-7838. At dark another estimated bn was attacking high ground NW of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-7937), while an estimated Co. was exerting strong pressure on Hill 415 (Q-8338). Resistance in the ALTHORN (Q-7540) area continued strong with enemy launching small, unsuccessful counterattack this area. At dark enemy was reported forced out of ALTHORN. In BAERENTHAL - PHILIPPSBOURG area, enemy remained quiet but alert.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

Enemy in 36th Div sector was quiet but reacted nervously to ren by fire directed against his positions. 100th Div reports enemy quiet their sector, as did 44th Div. In 103rd Div sector, enemy from 4 pillboxes vic OETING (Q-4063) resisted throughout day with SA and AW fire. South of FORBACH some SA and 120-mm mortar

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fire was received during morning. 106th Cav patrols encountered some SA fire vic GIESLAUTERN (Q-3471).

c. Miscellaneous.
(1) Movements.

Inclement weather prevented aerial recon during period.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PW Statements.

(1) PW 11 SS Mtn Regt stated attack today was prelude of larger attack to follow in which another SS Div will be employed.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 101800A to 111800A Jan: 238 (including 5 deserters and 6 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 111800A Jan: 132,376. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

c. Weather Forecast.

13 Jan: Scattered to broken low clouds. Visibility 1-2 miles during morning, improving to 3-5 miles in afternoon. Wind NE 6-10 mph. Minimum temperature 9° F.

14 Jan: Clear; no precipitation. Visibility ½-1 mile, improving to 3-4 miles after 1100A, but lowering to ½-1 mile after 1800A. Wind east 8-10 mph. Minimum temperature 11° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn

WILLIAM W. QUINN *WVZ*
Colonel, G.S.C.,
A. C. of S., G-2

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To : 122400A Jan 45Ref. No. X-239G-2 REPORTHq. Seventh Army
In the Field
130600A January 1945

No. 151.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See attached map).(1) Organization and Strength.(a) 172nd Res. Div.

Captured document, dated 19 Dec., originated by 172nd Res. Div. (Comment: Confirms previous PW statements of up-grading of 172nd Mob. Div. to Res. Div.)

(b) 559 VG Div.

CP 559 VG Div at Q-7851, according to PW.

(c) Divisional Boundary.

PW states boundary between 17 SS PG Div and 19 Inf Div Q-6055.

(d) 653 Tank Bn.

Undated map, believed 1 Jan., shows 653 Tank Bn. in NEU ALTHEIM (Q-6863). (Comment: Probably a Jagdpanther Bn.)

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Strong enemy patrol which reached EBERMUNSTER (V-8468) during night was forced to withdraw and two night attacks on bridge at OSTHOUSE (V-9477) were repulsed. Enemy succeeded in occupying ROSSFELD (V-9171) and HERBSHEIM (V-9272), however, and employed armor to stop a friendly raid vic KRAFFT (V-9780). Arty fire fell on SERRERSHEIM (V-8672), HUTTENHEIM (V-8873) and KRAFFT, but there was little activity during latter part of period.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

The RHINE Bridgehead area continued quiet. To the north, intense arty fire, tank and inf action characterized heavy fighting as enemy renewed attacks in HATTEN (R-1733) - RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) area. Determined resistance, mortar, arty fire and local counter-attacks were met in HARDT Mountains vic ALTHORN (Q-7540) - WILDENGUTH (Q-7837), but in SAAR Valley and west, the enemy remained comparatively inactive.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps: No change reported.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

VI Corps: One enemy tank at DAMBACH (Q-9245) at 2000A (11 Jan.). At 0800A (12 Jan.), eight enemy tanks reported in REITERSHOFFEN (Q-1733). One tank at Q-157350 at 0838A. Three Mark IV's at Q-159343 (0935A). Undetermined number of tanks vic Q-151415, moving SE, about 1000A. Two tanks, with inf, moving NW vic Q-172344 at 1030A. One tank at Q-157344 at 1100A, and one tank Q-152325 at 1110A. One tank moving from HATTEN (Q-1733) towards REITERSHOFFEN at 1115A. At 1345A, three tanks observed at Q-165330. One SP located at ALTHORN (Q-755404) at 1500A, and SP fire from vic MELCH (Q-7940) at 1600A. Approximately 10 tanks in REITERSHOFFEN all through day, and tanks heard vic INGOLSHHEIM (Q-1441) throughout the period.

XV Corps: Nothing to report.

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps: The enemy reacted to our attack with the greatest arty activity yet experienced by VI Corps in FRANCE, enemy fire directed predominantly into the critical HOFFEN (R-1537) -

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OBERBETCHSDORF (R-1233) - HATTEN (R-1733) triangle. The 45th Div sector continued to receive moderate arty fire, with scattered shelling in WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) area, PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) and SE of BAERENTHAL (Q-8442) areas. Harassing fire in DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) and vic ROHRWILLER (R-1217) constituted the slight activity reported in the bridgehead sector. Heavy harassing fire received in the R-O-H triangle, with concentrations up to 200 rounds of mixed calibers, mediums forming a large portion of the shelling. REICHSHOFFEN (Q-9437) and INGWILLER (Q-8130) also harassed. RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1534) and our positions to the north especially pounded, estimated 400-500 rounds falling in this area during afternoon. Moderate counter-battery fire was also reported in the SCHWABWILLER (R-1033) - OBERBETCHSDORF area. Air OP, sound locations, and other sources indicate that enemy arty is deployed from WISSEMBOURG to SELTZ, with the bulk located in the OBERSEEBACH (R-1841) - TRIMBACH (R-2138) - EBERBACH (R-2436) area. The latest unusual caliber identified is the 128-mm flak, which has been firing into the BISCHWILLER sector, very likely from the H A A positions picked up on photos vic LICHTENAU (R-2014).

XV Corps: Enemy arty continued active in LEMBERG (Q-7444) - SARRENSBURG (Q-7441), mainly harassing fire, consisting of 2 - rounds. In the 106th Cav sector, the road north of KUDWILLER (Q-3270) 8 rounds light caliber. 103rd Div sector continues quiet. Light harassing fire was received in 44th Div sector with a total of 110 rounds falling in general area Q-593558 - Q-602553 between 1435A and 1500A. Nebelwerfer fire continued active in this sector with 80 rounds reported vic Q-604550 at 1620A. Concentrations of 20 rounds received vic SARRENSBURG (Q-7441) and wooded ridge at Q-755417. The 100th Div sector remained quiet except for a few rounds of CB fire from a 210-mm how.

(3) Aviation.

No enemy air activity reported.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In the RHINE Bridgehead, 7 enemy tanks were reported vic DRUSENHEIM (R-1318), but area was generally inactive with only slight arty fire and one 30-man enemy patrol, which was driven off, in HERRLISHEIM (R-1315) area. Intense arty fire was received in the 79th Div sector north of RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) at 112000A, following which enemy tank and inf attack succeeded in occupying most of town of HATTEN (R-1733) and surrounding some 79th Div troops. Heavy vehicular and tank traffic reported between STEINSELTZ (R-1445) - REIDSELTZ (R-1543) and INGOLSHEIM (R-1441) all through night 11/12 Jan. During forenoon (12 Jan.) resistance in RITTERSHOFFEN decreased somewhat with exception of strong point in SE section of town which was supported by intense arty fire and at least 5 tanks. Cemetery vic R-1633 has been converted into strong point. SA fire was received from houses in this area and woods to SE. Hard fighting continues in HATTEN - RITTERSHOFFEN section, with enemy continuing to hold eastern portion of latter town. Strong resistance vic Q-7938, Q-8038, Q-8338 (night 11/12 Jan) lessened somewhat during forenoon 12 Jan. as 45th Div regained most of lost ground. Later in period, however, resistance stiffened, and SA, mortar and arty fire were met NE and SE of ALTHORN (Q-7540). Opposition was encountered NW of WILDENGUTH (Q-7837), a counterattack was repulsed in this area at 1600A, and a second counterattack with mortar, arty and SP support was also repulsed vic Q-7938, but heavy fire continues. Enemy companies are reported entrenched vic Q-8238 - Q-8240.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

36th Div patrols received SA fire vic Q-7543 and Q-7442. 100th Div reported enemy on defensive and sector generally quiet. Advancing elmts of 44th Div encountered SA, MG, Nebelwerfer and light arty fire vic Q-5555. 103rd Div patrols met SA and AW resistance in KENBACH (Q-4463), LIXING (Q-4662) and GROS BLIEDERSTROFF (Q-4862). Civilians state enemy is reinforcing his units. 106th Cav Gp sector remained quiet.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

Seventh Army flew no missions today because of weather. There was, however, one very lucrative mission flown by Third Army's TAC/R at 1530A, which reported approximately 1300 inf and 150 vehicles, including some armor, below the 83 Northing and between the 42 and 52 Eastings, apparently converging on SAARBRUCKEN.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 111800A to 121800A Jan: 273 (including 9 deserters and 162 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 121800A Jan: 132,649. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

b. Weather Forecast.

14 Jan: Light precipitation and overcast low clouds in morning, becoming broken in afternoon. Visibility $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 mile, improving to 3-4 miles after 1200A. Wind easterly, 6-10 mph. Minimum temperature 26° F.

15 Jan: Partly cloudy. Visibility 1-2 miles in morning, improving to 3-5 miles after 1200A. Wind easterly, 5-9 mph. Minimum temperature 23° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN
 Colonel, G.S.C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L
 HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
 Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
 APO 758 US ARMY
Copy No. 26Ref. No. X-258G-2 REPORT

No. 152.

 From: 122400A Jan 45
 To : 132400A Jan 45

 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 140600A January 1945

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See attached map).(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.36th Inf. Div.118th Gr.Elmts 2nd Bn. - vic. Q-8743, on 11 Jan.(2) Organization and Strength.(a) Hq. First Army.
 Reliable PW states operational Hq. of First Army at
 RAMSTEIN (Q-8794). Most of First Army Staff in LANDSTUHL area
 (Q-8890).
c. Reserves and Other Forces Capable of Intervention.(1) 7th Para. Div.
 PWs stated parachute troops arrived in RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1634)
 night 12-13 Jan. (Comment: If statement is correct, possibly elmts
 7th Para Div concerned, as div has not been identified since Dec.,
 in HOLLAND.)
2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.
 On the southern side of the pocket, an enemy raid east of ILE
 NAPOLEON was repulsed. In the north, strong enemy combat patrols
 during night 12/13 south of SELESTAT (V-7862) were believed to have
 for their mission the establishment of exact boundary between French
 and American troops. Following reports of inf and arty concentration
 in woods vic V-9275, considerable number of enemy, with arty support,
 were attempting to cross ILL River at V-9276 late in period. Enemy
 arty shelled AMMERSCHWIHR (V-6647), HUTTENHEIM (V-8873), SAND (V-9176)
 and BENFELD (V-8974). KAYSERSBERG (V-6549) received harassing 170-mm
 fire.
(2) Seventh U.S. Army.
 RHINE Bridgehead area was generally quiet, although enemy attack
 SE of DRUSENHEIM (R-1528) forced withdrawal of friendly OPL. Heavy
 fighting continued at both RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) and HATTEN (R-1733)
 where the enemy stubbornly resisted U.S. advances, employing tanks
 and flamethrowers. Contact was made with U.S. elements cut off in
 HATTEN, but enemy vehicles continued to enter town from east. In
 the HARDT Mountain salient, the enemy resisted strongly U.S. efforts
 to force him back toward the north.
(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps reports no change.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.
 VI Corps reported that tanks were heard in DAMBACH (Q-9244) at
 0300A. Air OPs reported 4 tanks at Q-8544 at 1300A. One SP reported
 at Q-8442 and one in Q-7540 grid during the afternoon. 1 tank was
 reported in STUNDILLER (R-1936) grid square before noon. One Mk IV
 was knocked out at R-1835 at 1300A. An undetermined number of tanks
 were observed on road from HATTEN (R-1733) to BUHL (R-1935) around
 1300A. Generally large numbers of tanks were operating in HATTEN and
 RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) throughout the day. Flamethrowers were used
 in HATTEN. Two anti-tank guns were observed at R-1735. One SP gun

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knocked out in RITTERSHOFFEN.

In XV Corps zone, one tank observed in RIMLING (Q-6555) by 100th Div. 5 tanks were observed moving south vic NEUALTHEIM (Q-6863).

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps: A considerable reduction occurred in enemy arty activity during the period, probably due both to improved visibility, which favored our air observation, and to extensive counterbattery of all known locations. In both day and night activity noticeable decrease occurred, particularly in the number of heavy concentrations. The HATTEN (R-1833) - OBERBETCHSDORF (R-1233) - HOFFEN (R-1537) triangle continued to be the hardest and most frequently hit area, though much less than the previous day. In the bridgehead sector, two moderate CB concentrations were reported midnight vic BISCHWILLER (R-0919) and a few heavy caliber shells fell in WEYERSHEIM (R-0513), but after that, the bridgehead was quiet, except for 50 rounds in ROHRWILLER (R-1218) at 1705A. The harassing fire during the night in the HATTEN - OBERBETCHSDORF - HOFFEN triangle and vic Q-8338, WILDENGUTH (Q-7838), ZINSWILLER (Q-8936), ROTHBACH (Q-8534), was generally light, consisting of 10 to 20 rounds, with a few heavy caliber shells in PHATTENHOFFEN (Q-9027). Light and medium calibers harassed our troops in the HATTEN - OBERBETCHSDORF - HOFFEN triangle intermittently in the morning, but in the early afternoon heavy concentrations, exceeding 100 rounds, fell in RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1634), and vic Q-8338. About 1700A, WILDENGUTH and the HATTEN - OBERBETCHSDORF - HOFFEN triangle each received 60 rounds, with 50 more falling in the latter area at the close of the period. The arty along the line WISSEMBOURG - SELTZ, especially vic OBERSEEBACH (R-1841) - TRIMBACH (R-2138) - EBERBACH (R-2437), continued to be the most active.

XV Corps: Enemy arty continued to decrease in activity during the period. No concentration in excess of 20 rounds was reported. No activity was reported in the 44th Div sector. In the 100th Div sector, GUIRING (Q-6552) was shelled by nebelwerfers between 0930A and 1030A, with 18 rounds reported. KLEINMUHL (Q-7052) and vic was shelled by 9 rounds at 1045A. The road vic Q-699550 was shelled by 12 rounds light cal. at 1600A. Forward elmts were harassed by from 2 to 4 rounds at a time during the period. In the 36th Div sector, the forest vic Q-7541 was harassed by 15 rounds at 0445A. SARREINSBERG (Q-7441) was shelled by 15 rounds light cal. at 1415A. Forward elmts received from 3 to 5 rounds of harassing fire during the period.

(3) Aviation.

A large number of jet-propelled ME 262's were included among the enemy aircraft over the Army area during the day. In VI Corps area, 24 hostile sorties were reported, of which 16 were identified as ME 262's. One ME 262 was over XV Corps area.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In RHINE Bridgehead area, MG fire and grenade attack early in period forced friendly outposts to withdraw SE of DRUSENHEIM (R-1518). Long range MG and SA fire were received from dug-in positions along east bank of canal SW of HERRLISHEIM (R-1214). In 79th Div - 14th Armd Div sector, the enemy offered strong resistance at HATTEN (R-1733) and RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533). He employed inf, flamethrowers and tanks at HATTEN. Contact was made with friendly troops there during the afternoon, but heavy fighting continued, and enemy vehicles continued entering town from east. At RITTERSHOFFEN, the enemy continued to resist stubbornly in north and east part of town and to hold strongpoint in cemetery and church. SA fire, flak wagons, tanks and flamethrowers were met. 12 tanks and SP's were estimated to be in town. Early in the period, 45th Div repulsed two attempted infiltrations at Q-9343 and Q-7638. The enemy offered further strong resistance on crest of LE FORLENKOPF (Q-7838) and south and SE of ALTHORN (Q-7540). Enemy pocket vic Q-8237 was eliminated.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

36th Div patrols to Q-7545, Q-7544, Q-7442 area reported only

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slight contact with enemy patrols and outposts. 100th Div reported 40 enemy and 2 vehicles moving south vic Q-6656 at midday and small group moving north from Q-6555 in afternoon. No other ground activity on Corps front during period.

(c) XXI U.S. Corps.

No contact with enemy. Air OP reported train carrying pontoons vic Q-3567 at 1515A destroyed by arty.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

TAC/R reported a 3-pontoon bridge section being towed south at R-3034 and a similar section being towed south at R-3237. Slightly farther south, smoke was observed at the former SELTZ bridge site at R-2932. Light road and rail traffic was seen between LANDAU (R-2866) and NEUSTADT (R-2984), and there was again activity north and NE of SAARBRUCKEN, although less heavy than the previous day. There was scattered MT movement between SAARBRUCKEN and NEUNKIRCHEN (Q-5983) and 20-30 MT and 100 inf on roads west of NEUNKIRCHEN and north of SAARBRUCKEN, with predominant movement to the south and SE.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. Captured Documents.

Document reveals that German div. staff has been augmented by one member. The NSFO (National Socialist Indoctrination Officer) has received title VI a.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 121800A to 131800A Jan: 200 (including 14 deserters and 16 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 131800A Jan: 132,849. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

c. Weather Forecast.

15 Jan: No precipitation, clear sky. Visibility 0-1 mile at dawn, improving gradually to 2-3 miles in thick haze. Easterly wind, 8 mph. Continued cold. Minimum temperature 20° F.

16 Jan: High clouds throughout day, no precipitation. Visibility 1/2-1 mile due to haze and fog, improving to 4-5 miles after 1100A. Wind easterly 10 mph. Minimum temperature 16° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN C463
 Colonel, G.S.C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
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Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact. (See attached map)(1) New Identifications.(a) XV Corps.

17th SS PG Div.

38th SS PGR - vic. Q-6045.

(2) Organization and Strength.(a) XC Corps.

Officer PW stated XIII Corps controls 19th Inf Div, 17th SS PG Div and 559 VG Div. (Higher Hq. Comment: Confirms belief that some other Corps must be in command in HARDT Forest, for which position XC Corps is only candidate available.)

(b) 19th Inf. Div.

PW's state CP 19th Inf Div vic Q-5867.

(c) 256th VG Div.

Enemy dispositions in DAMBACH - REIPERTSWILLER area indicate shift of 256th VG Div into 361st VG Div sector. Latter Div, which was very badly mauled, is either withdrawing for refit, or possibly will continue fighting in a stop-gap battle group role.

(d) 36th Inf Div.

36th Div apparently taking over 256th Div sector (DAMBACH area), but only 118 GR so far identified.

c. Reserves and Other Forces Capable of Intervention.

(1) Civilians report paratroopers in RITTERSHOFFEN. (Comment: Statements of paratroopers in HATTEN - RITTERSHOFFEN area persistent; however, no identification as yet.)

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

In southern zone friendly patrols drew arty fire in NIFFER (V-8302) and KEMBS (A-8398) regions. In northern zone, small enemy bridgehead reported across L'ILL River vic EHL (V-9175). HUTTENHEIM (V-8873) and EBERSHEIM (V-8267) heavily shelled. Considerable arty fire fell vic BENFELD (V-8974) and OSTHOUSE (V-9277). Estimated 800 to 1000 rounds of arty fell during day in vic ORBEY (V-5747). Strong enemy patrol repulsed vic EBERSMUNSTER (V-8468). Farther north, enemy patrol crossed RHINE River vic PORT DU COMMERCE at STRASBOURG (W-0498) but was repulsed. In small bridgehead over RHINE to north, an enemy patrol repulsed vic KILSTETT (R-0808).

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

The enemy remained generally quiet in bridgehead southeast of BISCHWILLER (R-0818). Farther north, heavy fighting continued in HATTEN (R-1733) - RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) area, with enemy offering stubborn opposition and launching several counterattacks, supported by tanks, SP guns and flamethrowers. Enemy counterattack in HATTEN at 2210A, supported by tanks and unestimated number of inf, forced forward elmts to withdraw. In HARDT Mountain salient, advance continued to encounter strong opposition. Small counterattacks northwest of RIEPERTSWILLER (R-8037) repulsed. Elsewhere, to the west, along Army front the enemy remained generally quiet.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L(3) Third U.S. Army.

In XX Corps zone, the enemy remained generally quiet. SA, mortar and arty fire encountered vic TETTINGEN (L-0402). Town cleared of enemy at 0825A. Small counterattack vic BUTZDORF (L-0403) at 1225A repulsed. Small enemy patrol dispersed at river vic WADGASSEN (Q-3174) at 1720A.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

On VI Corps front, between ROHRWILLER (R-1217) and DRUSENHEIM (R-1517), three enemy tanks observed and two knocked out by friendly tanks. Eight to ten tanks and unknown number of flamethrowers observed in vic of RITTERSHOFFEN this afternoon. During afternoon an unknown number of tanks were observed at east edge of HATTEN. At 2100A, tank fire received from vic Q-7739. This morning SP fire received vic Q-7938.

In XV Corps zone, one enemy SP destroyed vic RIMLING (Q-6555) by tank destroyer fire.

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps: Though enemy arty continued quite active, the volume of fire was greatly reduced today, especially in HOFFEN (R-1536) - OBERBETSCHDORF (R-3132) - HATTEN (R-1733) triangle, with heaviest concentration reported consisting of 60 rounds. During night, heavy calibers were very prominent, with 40 rounds in RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) and approximately 20 rounds in BISCHMILLER (R-0818). Elsewhere principal harassing fire fell vic HOFFEN and Q-7639. The bridgehead sector continued relatively quiet with only light shelling in ROHRWILLER (R-1217) being reported. In daylight hours, when enemy was most active, fire in HOFFEN - OBERBETSCHDORF - HATTEN triangle was mainly harassing in nature, with an occasional 10-40 rounds. This was in marked contrast to the two preceding days when massed fires, amounting sometimes to battalion strength, were laid down. For this reason, the amount of shelling received in the two major sectors was about the same, since a slight increase occurred in 45th Div sector. In latter zone, our forward elmts along line ALTHORN (Q-7540) - REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) received the bulk of the fire, including a barrage which fell vic Q-7640 at 1300A.

XV Corps: Enemy arty activity continued to decline. Nebelwerfer fire continued to be received sporadically but no large concentrations reported. Forward roads continued to be the chief target. Very little activity reported in 44th Div sector. In 100th Div sector, the small woods vic Q-6854 received 12 rounds of Nebelwerfer fire at 1130A. Road vic Q-6450 interdicted with 50 rounds from 1245A to 1400A. Road vic SINGLING (Q-6249) interdicted with 3 rounds every 5 minutes from 1200A to 1600A. 24 rounds of Nebelwerfer fire reported vic Q-6951 at 1825A. In 36th Div sector, area vic Q-7444 harassed by 20 rounds at 1620A. Sporadic shelling with 2 to 5 rounds was reported on forward elmts during period.

(3) Aviation.

Enemy aircraft continued active over Army area during period, with mostly jet-propelled machines being employed. A total of 19 planes were reported. 8 ME 262's vic WALBOURG (R-0332) and OBERBETSCHDORF (R-1232) dropped HE and AP bombs at approximately 0900A. Later in morning, 4 ME 262's and 2 ME 109's were observed vic MORSBRONN (R-0033) and HOCHFELDEN (Q-8717). During afternoon, at 1303A, 1 ME 210 observed in Army zone being engaged by friendly aircraft, and at 1440A, 1 ME 262 observed vic MORSBRONN. 2 ME 262's vic RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) and 1 ME 262 vic OBERBETSCHDORF were engaged by AA at 1508A and 1537A, respectively.

(4) Engineers.

Enemy minefield reported north of GAMBSHEIM vic R-1110. Increased number of mines and booby traps encountered in southern portion of HARTDT Mountain salient.

(5) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In 79th Div zone MG fire received vic R-1215 and R-1316. 25-man enemy patrol driven back vic R-1014. Later in day enemy patrols engaged vic R-2021 and R-2130. Another patrol observed vic R-2129. In 14th Arm'd Div zone, heavy fighting continued in HATTEN -

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RITTERSHOFFEN area. Late in previous period counterattack by 60 enemy from north of RITTERSHOFFEN at 1700A repulsed, and counter-attack at 2330A along HATTEN - RITTERSHOFFEN road with inf supported by tanks, SP and flamethrowers gained no ground. Enemy counterattack along HATTEN - RITTERSHOFFEN road at 1415A today repulsed at 1500A. Enemy counterattack in HATTEN at 2210A with tanks and unestimated number of inf forced forward elmts to withdraw. Strong opposition from arty, mortar and SP continued in RITTERSHOFFEN, where enemy snipers active in west end of town. Estimated enemy bn. dug in on north bank of river vic R-1734. On 45th Div front, fire fight developed vic Q-7938 after enemy had over-run friendly OP. Small counterattack in same vic repulsed at 0130A. Strong resistance continued from enemy in dug-in positions vic Q-7640, Q-7939 and Q-7938, supported by considerable mortar and arty fire. Counterattack of estimated company strength vic Q-7938 repulsed. Counterattack by estimated 150 enemy succeeded in cutting road vic Q-7838. Heavy mortar and arty fire received in area SARREINSBERG (Q-7441), ALTHORN (Q-7540), WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) and REHBACH (Q-8339).

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

Enemy inf generally inactive. Some sporadic sniper and mortar fire reported during period.

(c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Enemy inf quiet during period. In zone of 106th Cav Group, enemy continues to hold high ground along general line Q-3371, Q-3470, Q-3469 and Q-3468.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

TAC/R: Weather obscured the Black Forest rail lines during morning, and but little activity was observed in afternoon between 1415A and 1545A, consisting of 1 small train and some M/Y activity at FREIBURG (W-0832), 1 train of 100 cars facing west at NEUSTADT (W-3624) and 1 train of 50 cars facing west at W-4521. No movement seen from DONAUESCHINGEN (W-5728) north to PFORZHEIM (R-7233). No bridges were observed from STRASBOURG to KARLSRUHE today and no activity was noted along RHINE in that area on missions flown during morning and afternoon. Tracks, however, leading to two previous bridge sites, R-2834 and R-1718, indicate some use, possibly for night barge traffic. There was very little rail traffic reported across entire northern front today by TAC/R or F/B's, and reports did not indicate much activity in M/Y's in this area, with exception of one report of activity in yards at SAARBRUCKEN (Q-4571) at 1200A, though no rail activity was reported in this vic. Road traffic reported included no convoys, except one isolated group of 10 M/T headed north at Q-9497, and consisted of light, scattered traffic, with the bulk of that observed, moving bothways, on the LANDAU (R-2866) - ZWEIBRUCKEN (Q-7372) road net. The western area showed very little road activity to several missions today, and the only item of interest in this area was a report received from Third Army of a TAC/R observation of some 50 tanks, vic Q-4979, at approximately 1200A, 13 Jan. This report may be subject to confirmation by photo cover.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PW Statements.

- (1) 1st and 2nd Bns, 11th SS Mtn Regt. vic MELCH (Q-7940). Statements indicate they will attack 15 Jan.
- (2) PWs report new enemy Regt. in HATTEN.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 131800A to 141800A Jan: 57 (including 4 deserters and 1 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 141800A Jan: 132,906. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

c. Weather Forecast.

16 Jan: Increasing high and low cloudiness during day. Light rain or snow by evening. Visibility 0-1 mile at dawn, improving

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to 2-3 miles by 1200A. Haze. Wind NW 12 mph. Warmer.
Minimum temperature 32° F.

17 Jan: Overcast, with light rain in morning, clouds broken in
afternoon. Visibility 1-2 miles at dawn, improving to 6-8
miles in afternoon. Wind north, 10 mph. Colder at night.
Minimum temperature 25° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN //11118
Colonel, G.S.C.,
A. C. of S., G-2

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L
 HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
 Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
 APO 758 US ARMY
Copy No. 26Ref. No. X-295

No. 154.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

 From: 142400A Jan 45
 To : 152400A Jan 45

 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 160600A January 1945
1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.7th Para Div.20th Para Regt.1st Co. - vic. HATTEN (R-1833).36th VG Div.118th GR.1st Bn. - vic. Q-8542.256th VG Div.476th GR - vic. Q-8038.257th VG Div.477th GR1st Bn. - vic. Q-7738.2nd SS Police Regt.8th Co. - vic. OFFENDORF (R-1312).(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 245th Div.

PWs state CP 245th Div in vic. R-1756.

c. Reserves and Other Forces Capable of Intervention.(1) 10th SS Pz. Div.

SHAEF reports 10th SS Pz. Div. arriving in KAISERSLAUTERN area.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Enemy remained generally quiet during period. In HARTH Forest, east of MULHOUSE, a small enemy attack was repulsed. Harassing arty fire was reported on ORBEY (V-5747), RIBEAUVILLE (V-6955), SELESTAT and ERSTEIN, and enemy patrols were active in the BENFELD (V-8974) and OSTHOUSE (V-9378) area.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

In bridgehead area, 553rd Div remained quiet. Farther north in the HATTEN area, the 21st Pz and 25th PG Divs, now reinforced by elmts of 7th Para Div, made continuous and strenuous efforts to effect penetration of main battle position. At dark, bitter fighting was in progress in HATTEN, but at close of period the situation appeared well in hand. In HARDT Mtns, shifting of 256th Div westward and 257th Div eastward indicated remnants 361st Div now withdrawn and further considerably narrows front of 6th SS Mtn Div. Close contact was maintained with enemy in this area, and several counterattacks, one of these north of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037), classified as strong, were beaten off. In SAAR Valley enemy continued to reflect a defensive attitude.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps sector remained generally quiet, although small enemy counterattack at TETTINGEN (L-0402) was repulsed. Scattered patrol action was reported remainder of front.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps sector, tanks of 21st Pz and 25th PG Divs were very active in supporting inf in the attack. A total of 14 were reported in the RITTEL-SHOFFEN (R-1533) area, while an unconfirmed report

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placed 30 in the northern part of HATTEN. Early in period two tanks were heard moving north of WILDENGUTH (Q-7838), and during early hours of morning tank fire was received in this area. Enemy armor activity in the XV and XXI Corps sectors was negligible. Two tanks, probably belonging to 17th SS PG Div, were observed - one vic of RIMLING (Q-6555) and the other vic NOUSSEVILLER (Q-7356).

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps sector enemy arty, particularly ammunition expenditures, continued to decrease during period, even in areas where local attacks occurred. In the HOFFEN - OBERBETSCHDORF - HATTEN triangle, the shelling was of a harassing nature only; only one concentration of 50 rounds being reported, the remainder being of 10 or 20 rounds in number. The bridgehead sector was quiet, with the exception of heavy caliber fire harassing HAGUENAU and medium caliber interdiction of the ROHRWILLER Bridge (R-1217) during the night. In the 45th Div sector, considerable reduction in fire was noticeable. The UHRWILLER (Q-8831) and ALTHORN (Q-7540) areas were harassed, and inf in the hills between REIPERTSWILLER and PECHELBRONN (Q-8639) received several concentrations of moderate size, although the WILDENGUTH area was conspicuously absent from the list. Heavy caliber guns to the north took advantage of poor visibility between 0730A and 0800A and shelled MERTZWILLER (Q-9529), ZINSWILLER (Q-8935) and MULHAUSEN (Q-8631).

A complete estimate of enemy arty strength on the VI Corps front is still impossible. Incomplete photo coverage, 14 Jan., revealed unknown strength vic WISSENBURG and WINTZENBACH (R-2727), indicating at least two division artilleries and an additional 6-8 bns in this area alone.

In the XV Corps, enemy arty remained very quiet, with only activity of any consequence being 24 rounds of Nebelwerfer fire on GUISSING (Q-6552) between 0210A and 0235A. Occasional rounds of arty harassed forward elmts along Corps front.

XXI Corps reports their sector quiet throughout period.

(3) Aviation.

No enemy air activity reported during period.

(4) Infantry.

In VI Corps zone, 79th and 14th Armd Divs report that heavy fighting continued throughout period in the HATTEN area, while the enemy remained relatively quiet in the RITTERSHOFFEN and bridgehead areas. One attack which had begun at end of previous period, and supported by 4 tanks, succeeded in penetrating into the north portion of HATTEN. Enemy resumed the attack at 0545A, this time supported by flamethrowing tanks, but was repulsed by 0645A. During remainder of morning and early afternoon, enemy observed effecting local readjustments, and at 1500A tried again, this time from the east, with an estimated bn of inf supported by tanks. At dark, it appeared enemy had been reinforced, and fight for the town was being bitterly contested. 45th Div maintained close contact with the enemy from ALTHORN to OBERMUHITHAL (Q-8340). Early in period efforts of 100 to 150 enemy, by infiltration, to cut road west of WILDENGUTH were repulsed, and at daylight enemy appeared disorganized in this area. At 1630A, enemy made a strong but unsuccessful attack in area northeast of REIPERTSWILLER, and at dark there were indications that he intended to renew the attack in this area. The enemy's aggressiveness extended northeast to the PHILIPPSBOURG (Q-8742) and DAMBACH (Q-9244) areas, where local attacks were dealt with, with heavy losses being inflicted on the enemy.

Enemy in XV Corps was quiet, confining his activity generally to light patrolling. However, 44th Div reports that during afternoon, considerable vehicular activity was heard in BLIESBRUCK (Q-5957).

In XXI Corps, only slight enemy contact was reported. 100th Div reports an undetermined number of enemy tracked vehicles entered OETING (Q-4064) at 1835A, and later, at 1930A, moved south toward forward positions. 106th Cav zone was also quiet. Small enemy group observed at Q-3471 and Q-3470 were engaged by friendly arty.

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C O N F I D E N T I A Lc. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

Weather limited aerial recon to 8 missions, all flown during latter part of afternoon.

In Black Forest area, rail line east from FREIBURG to DONAUESCHINGEN (W-5728), VILLENGEN (W-5440) and north to OFFENBURG appeared unusually busy in southern portion, with some 15 trains moving both ways.

Over the north front of the Army, both rail and road traffic observed was generally light, though moderate rail traffic was indicated in the LANDAU - GERMERSHEIM (R-4669) area.

The western area, SAARBRUCKEN - ZWEIBRUCKEN, again appeared very quiet with the exception of a little light movement in the vic of ZWEIBRUCKEN. There was no appreciable change in rolling stock in M/Y's in this area over previous period, nor any special activity in them.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.(1) 7th Para Div.

PWs 7th Para Div stated they left VENLO (HOLLAND) end Dec., took route: HANOVER - ERFURT - HEILBRONN - KARLSRUHE - GERMERSHEIM (RHINE crossed) - LANDAU, arrived HATTEN area 13 Jan.

(2) 2nd SS Police Regt.

PWs from 1st Bn, 2nd SS Police Regt., stated they crossed RHINE on ferry improvised from four pontoons covered with planking and towed by heavy motorboat.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 141800A to 151800A Jan: 39 (including 12 deserters, 5 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 151800A Jan: 132,945. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

c. Weather Forecast.

17 Jan: Scattered to broken clouds, with widely scattered snow squalls in afternoon. Wind northwest, 7-12 mph. Visibility 1 mile before 1000A, improving to 4-5 miles in afternoon. Minimum temperature 23° F.

18 Jan: Low overcast in morning, becoming broken to overcast in afternoon. Moderate intermittent snow throughout period. Visibility 1 mile until 1100A due to fog and snow, improving to 4-5 miles in afternoon, except $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in snow. Wind northwest, 12-16 mph. Minimum temperature 22° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

WILLIAM W. QUINN *WV*
 Colonel, G.S.C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2

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Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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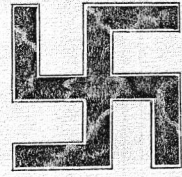
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After Action Report

ANNEX Number 27 • Berlin

Period 16 JAN-31 JAN 1945



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16 JANUARY - 31 JANUARY 1945

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G-2 REPORT

No. 155

 From: 152400A Jan 45
 To : 162400A Jan 45

 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 170600A January 1945

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

 1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

 a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

 b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)

 (1) New Identifications.

 (a) VI U.S. Corps.

7th Para Div.

20th Para Regt.

5th Co. - vic HATTEN (R-1833).

 (2) Organization and Strength.

 (a) 20th Para Regt.

CP 20th Para Regt NIEDERODERN (R-2334).

 (b) 39th Panzer Corps.

 Document dated 11 Jan. 1945 mentions 39th Panzer Corps
 ammo dump at HOCHSTADT. (Comment: 39th Panzer Corps probably
 in control of armored divisions in HATTEN area.)

 2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.

 a. General Summary.

 (1) First French Army.

 Generally quiet with harassing artillery fire on HATTEN
 (V-9780) and a few rounds on SELESTAT (V-7962). One small attack
 repulsed vic V-7351 and strong opposition encountered vic V-61
 V-6248 and V-6647.

 (2) Seventh U.S. Army.

 Determined resistance was met in the bridgehead and enemy
 maintained strong pressure in the DRUSENHEIM (R-1517) and HATTEN
 (R-1734) areas. Although generally defensive, enemy continued
 close contact in ALTHORN (Q-7540) - WILDENGUTH (Q-7934) sector
 and counterattacked during afternoon. The Army's west flank was
 comparatively inactive throughout period.

 (3) Third U.S. Army.

 XX Corps reports TENNINGEN (L-0402) heavily shelled, and
 small counterattacks repulsed at BERG (L-0204) and WIES (L-0105)
 at 160550A.

 b. Operations of Component Elements.

 (1) Armored Force.

 In VI Corps sector three tanks painted white were observed vic
 R-1315, and an unknown number of tanks were seen vic R-1210 moving
 toward STEINWALD Wood at 1745A. In XV Corps zone, SPs were reported
 in vic Q-7645 at 152030A, and vic Q-7648 at 160130A.

 (2) Artillery.

 In VI Corps sector, enemy artillery showed marked increase
 during period, due to rapid reaction to aggressive moves in the
 HATTEN area and bridgehead sector. The 45th Div sector was com-
 paratively quiet after yesterday's activity, and the bulk of
 shelling fell in the critical HATTEN (R-1734), OBERBETSCHSDORF
 (R-1233), HOFFEN (R-1536) triangle. During a very active night in
 addition to frequent harassing fire, the enemy laid down two
 barrages, and several 30 to 50 round concentrations, and 50 rounds
 105mm caliber fell on forward elements vic Q-8338 at midnight.
 Shelling reports indicated only light harassing fire in the bridge-
 head sector during the night, though ROHRWILLER (R-1217) and
 DRUSENHEIM were later reported to have received moderate shelling.
 Scattered guns kept up harassing fire during the day, generally
 10-20 rounds at a time, in the HOFFEN - HUNSPACH (R-1539) - HATTEN
 area, but at 0905A a heavy concentration fell vic HOFFEN at noon

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200 rounds massed fire were laid in the same area. At 1450A another 80 to 100 rounds were reported. In the late afternoon, fire slackened, but between 1637A and 1700A, 40 rounds 105mm caliber fell vic Q-8038. In the afternoon ROHRWILLER (R-1217) bridge and BISCHWILLER (R-0919) were the targets of battery volleys, not heavy, but fairly constant, and the persistence of this fire, in spite of counterbattery, suggests casemated guns were partly responsible. As usual, the OBERSEEBACH - TRIMBACH - EBERBACH area was responsible for nearly all the shelling in the H-O-H triangle. The tenacious character of enemy resistance in the HATTEN area is reflected by the artillery support from the O-T-E groupment, which continues to fire, though at reduced rate, even during extensive counterbattery programs, covering the known locations in the responsible regions. This persistence is indicative of the artillery strength there.

In XV Corps zone, enemy artillery activity showed a definite increase during the period. The eastern sector of the Corps zone received practically all the shelling, where harassing fires fell on front line elements of 36th Div and 100th Div throughout the period. Heaviest concentrations were directed against roads. Night activity consisted mainly of scattered shelling of from 3 to 6 rounds but 20 rounds fell in the vic of GUIRING (Q-6552) around 0030A. The activity picked up when visibility became good around mid-morning, and concentrations of about 15 rounds were quiet frequently directed against the Q-6652 area. The road vic Q-6551 received 20 rounds between 1320A and 1340A. 20 rounds landed vic road Q-6450 at 1420A, and the road vic Q-6651 received 44 rounds between 1330A and 1415A. The town of LEMBERG (Q-7345) was hit by 2 concentrations of 20 to 30 rounds at 1135A and 60 rounds between 1500A and 1600A.

In XXI Corps sector, enemy artillery activity during the period was negligible. A total of 13 rounds of artillery fire was reported in the Corps sector, all of light caliber.

(3) Aviation.

At 1515A, one a/c is reported to have dropped two bombs on KUHLENDORF (R-1335) and at the same hour XXI Corps reports that 5-6 planes, identified as P-47's, bombed MERLEBACH (Q-3261). Five jet propelled a/c dropped 10 bombs on HOHWILLER (R-1236) at 1615A. HATTEN was reported strafed.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

12th Armored Div advances were delayed by determined enemy defense from the STEINWALD woods area vic R-1011 with SA, AW and mortar fire. Later in period, approx 1745A, an unknown number of tanks were seen moving toward these woods. A counterattack forming vic R-1416 was broken up by artillery fire. In 79th Div sector, small enemy patrols were observed at R-1443 and R-1640. Estimated 50-60 enemy encountered at DENGOLSHEIM (R-1821) believed to have moved there from DALHUNDEN (R-1819). A 15 man patrol was driven off vic R-1721. Heavy concentrations of mortar and artillery fire fell on HOFFEN (R-1536) during afternoon. 14th Armored Div continues house to house fighting in the HATTEN - RITTERSHOFFEN area with enemy resisting strongly in both towns and holding two strongpoints in northern half of HATTEN. A strong enemy counter-attack (1710A) from the north and northeast consisted of infantry and SP guns and forced a slight withdrawal of friendly elements in one section of HATTEN. In 45th Div area enemy remained defensive but alert, keeping close contact in ALTHORN (Q-7540) - WILDENGUTH (Q-7934) sector. After 1200A, a strong attack of estimated 3 companies was launched vic Q-8139 in cooperation with a heavy artillery and mortar concentration. Slight infiltration resulted and was being mopped up at close of period.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

In 44th Div area, at 160840A, 3 groups totalling 100 men observed moving SE vic Q-5958. An enemy combat patrol was dispersed vic Q-5955 at 2020A. A marked increase in arty fire was noted by 100th Div between the 60 and 67 Eastings. Remainder of Corps sector quiet.

C O N F I D E N T I A L(c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Light enemy activity with general increase in mortar and artillery fire in afternoon. MERLEBACH (Q-3261) bombed by 5-6 planes identified as P-47's. 50-75 enemy unloading wagons vic Q-3271 engaged by artillery with unknown results.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

As a result of generally good visibility Tac/R was able to fly 21 missions. The southern area was covered twice during the afternoon with one mission including the COLMAR pocket. Little activity observed and the northern portion of the pocket was quiet.

The general area along the RHINE was not very active with only about 20 M/T seen moving both ways between FREISTATT (R-1507) and RASTATT (R-3528). Rail movement in this sector was also light.

Across the northern front of the Army the bulk of rail movement was in vic LANDAU (R-2766). Four trains were observed moving East and one West on the LANDAU - GERMERSHEIM (R-4669) line, one train approaching LANDAU on the spur at R-3265, and two trains moving north toward LANDAU on the WISSEMBOURG (R-4815) line.

At PIRMASENS (Q-9067) there were 20-30 tank cars reported. Slightly north of PIRMASENS at Q-906723, F/B's report 6 trains with 25 flats and boxcars each. Otherwise no rail traffic or increase in rolling stock observed west of mountains. M/T movement in this area was light. One convoy of 15 M/T, towing very large trailers, was reported moving northeast at Q-4383 at 1010A, otherwise M/T was light and scattered. F/B comment at 0850A states a fair amount of scattered traffic appeared moving northeast from SAARBRUCKEN toward NEUNKIRCHEN and HOMBURG.

Photos taken today in this area show 16 flats in ST. INGBERT (Q-5576) at 1010A, the loadings of which were camouflaged but were probably tanks or M/T.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.(1) Genoberst Blaskowitz.

Prisoner states General Blaskowitz commanding German southern group of Armies. SHAEF comment: May well have superseded General Balck in command of Army Group G.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 151800A to 161800A Jan: 89 (including 12 deserters, 1 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 161800A Jan: 133,034. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

c. Weather Forecast.


18 Jan: Cloudy throughout day with scattered snow squalls. Visibility 1-2 miles in haze in morning, improving to 3-4 miles in afternoon. Visibility will lower to 1 mile or less in snow squalls. Wind northerly, 8-10 m.p.h. Minimum temperature 15° F.

19 Jan: Overcast broken low clouds throughout period with snow showers in first part of period, becoming scattered and light after 1200A. Visibility 2-3 miles at dawn, improving rapidly to 8-10 miles except to 2-3 miles in light snow in afternoon. Wind northwesterly, 12-14 m.p.h., decreasing to 6-8 m.p.h. after 1400A. Minimum temperature 25° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn

WILLIAM W. QUINN,
Colonel, G. S. C., 
A. C. of S., G-2.

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Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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No. 156

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

From: 162400A Jan 45
To : 172400A Jan 45Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
180600A January 19451. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.21st Pz Div.125th PGR.I Bn. - vic HATTEN (R-1833)25th PGD.119th PGR.I Bn. - vic RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533)125th Rcn Bn. - vic HATTEN36th Inf Div.Elmts 165th GR)36th Fus. Co.) vic Q-91437th Para Div.21st Para Regt.II Bn. - vic SESSENHEIM (R-1822)19th Para Regt.7th Co. - vic AUENHEIM (R-2023)(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 21st Pz & 25th PG Divs.

Various PWs stated 21st Pz and 25th PG Divs have suffered heavy casualties.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Attempted enemy crossing of WEISS River near SIGOLSHEIM (V-6848) repulsed night of 16 January. Friendly forces attacking bridgehead below GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) on 16 January forced by heavy fire to withdraw to line of departure. Sector generally quiet on 17 January, but artillery and mortar fire received at EBERMUNSTER (V-8468), BENNWIHR (V-6949), SIGOLSHEIM, and AMMERSCHWIHR (V-6647).

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

Enemy resisted strongly in HERRLISHEIM (R-1315) in Rhine bridgehead and continued aggressive to the north. Elements of 7th Parachute Division in SESSENHEIM (R-1822) area seized and held town until driven out in afternoon, but heavy fighting continues. Street fighting was in progress in RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) and HATTEN (R-1833) where two tank-supported infantry attacks were launched in the morning. In the HARDT Mountain salient, the enemy's strong resistance in the area north of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) was accompanied by further attempts at infiltration.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

Enemy pocket of estimated 85 troops defending 5-7 pillboxes reported holding out vic L-0203. Remainder of XX Corps zone quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In the VI Corps area approximately 8 tanks operated vic SESSENHEIM (R-1822). 2 tanks were destroyed in this area at 1115A. The remaining tanks were seen withdrawing toward DENGOLSHEIM (R-1921). Tanks supported infantry action vic HATTEN and RITTERSHOFFEN with two counterattacks, one at 0730A and one at 1130A. 1 tank was reported at Q-7942 at 1600A. 2 tanks were destroyed southeast of HATTEN at 1500A. 1 SP (R-1634) was destroyed at 1800A. 1 tank vic

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

R-1634 operated throughout the day. 5 tanks with alternate black and white stripes were observed moving north vic R-1932 and 10 tanks were engaged by artillery vic R-1932.

No action was reported throughout the period in the XV Corps sector.

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps sector the lively attitude exhibited by the enemy artillery yesterday continued during this period, with the rightcenter sector still receiving the larger amount of the shelling, though artillery fire also increased in the 45th Div sector. The bridgehead sector remained generally quiet except for harassing fire. Another very active night saw the usual moderate harassing fire in the HOFFEN (R-1537) - HATTEN area, but different in that this type of fire increased in the area N and NW of HUMSPACH (R-1539) as did the CB fire of all calibers, including 170mm in the INGWILLER (Q-8130) - ZINSWILLER (Q-8935) region. HAGUENAU - BISCHWILLER sector was again the target for 280mm RR guns across the Rhine. Apparently the CB program for the attack of the 14th Armd Div in the HATTEN area was effective, despite low expenditure of ammunition, for between 0645A and 1000A only one 35 round concentration was reported. Except for occasional 10-20 round harassing concentrations, the morning was in most sectors only moderately active, though 150 rounds fell on infantry NE of LICHTENBERG (Q-8135), and another 100 rounds med caliber fell vic REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) at 1155A. The afternoon, however, brought more frequent shelling, both in the ALTHORN (Q-7540) - REIPERTSWILLER sector and in the HOFFEN - RITTERS-HOFFEN (R-1533) area. Between 1500A and 1630A a total of 300 rounds fell vic LEITERSWILLER (R-1536). Photos taken yesterday again failed to cover the vitally important OBERSEEBACH (R-1840) - TRIMBACH (R-2138) area, but the NIEDERROEDERN (R-2334) - EBERACH (R-2436) area was covered and yielded eight new locations. Successive photo coverage of the bridgehead shows that almost all of its artillery support is located along a general line 4000 yards E of the river, which suggests only a defensive deployment sited to defend the present perimeter.

In the XV Corps area, after the large expenditure of light and medium caliber ammunition of the previous period, activity declined in this period; the LEMBERG - SARREINSBERG area continued to be shelled in the 36th Div sector and the 100th Div sector continued to receive the bulk of its fire on the forward elements. In 100th Div sector, the road vic Q-6546 was shelled by 20 rounds between 0100A and 0115A. The wooded ridge vic Q-7052 was harassed by 6 rounds at 1130A. The draw vic Q-6952 also was hit by 20 rounds light caliber at 1150A. Troops vic Q-7153 were harassed by 11 rounds at 1130A. Occasional fire of from 3 to 5 rounds fell on forward roads and installations during the period. In the 36th Div sector, MONBRONN (Q-6743) and vic was shelled by 50 rounds between 0300A and 0330A. SARREINSBERG (Q-7441) received a mixed concentration of mortars and artillery totalling 28 rounds at 0925A. LEMBERG (Q-7445) was shelled by 5 rounds at 1400A, 6 rounds at 1430A and an undetermined number of rounds at 1445A, and 10 rounds at 1830A. SPs may have been responsible as they were active during the afternoon in this area. SARREINSBERG was again shelled at 1705A by 10 rounds. MIESENTHAL (Q-7441) was harassed by an SP at 1900A. 44th Div reports very little activity in its sector.

In XXI Corps sector, enemy artillery activity continued negligible during the period. 40 rounds 150mm were reported Q-3672 at 0105A. 33 rounds 105mm were reported at Q-3665 from 1224A to 1630A. 3 rounds unknown caliber were reported at Q-4661 at 1800A.

(3) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In 12th Armd Div zone street fighting in progress in HERRLISHEIM (R-1315) throughout day. Enemy counterattack by 200 men and 6-8 tanks broken up by friendly artillery at 1600A. North of HERRLISHEIM, friendly bridgehead across ZORN River received heavy machine gun and AT fire from dug in positions along railroad between R-1315 and R-1416. 79th Div received an attack by an estimated two companies, supported by 8 tanks which seized STATTMATTEN (R-1921), DENGOLSHEIM (R-1821) and part of SESSENHEIM (R-1822). Friendly artillery destroyed two tanks in SESSENHEIM and the others withdrew; subsequent friendly counterattack recovered SESSENHEIM, but stiff

C O N F I D E N T I A L

enemy resistance continued in the vicinity. Enemy also reported W of MODER River vic R-1720. Enemy occupied ROESCHWOOG (R-2225) after forcing friendly outpost to withdraw. Enemy patrols which infiltrated R-1830 and R-1831, night 16/17 Jan, driven off but friendly outpost vic R-2030 was forced to withdraw. On extreme left of 79th Div sector, patrols reported an estimated enemy platoon digging in from R-1046 to R-1146. 14th Arm'd Div reported that the earlier attack at 161710A had been repulsed by 162215A. Two further enemy attacks, with tank support, were launched at HATTEN at 170730A and 1130A and heavy fighting continued throughout the day. Heavy street fighting also continued in RITTERSHOFFEN throughout the period. On the right of 45th Div zone, patrols reported CLIMBACH (R-0846) clear and an estimated company entrenching along woods north of town. On the left, strong opposition continued in the area north of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037), although the enemy appeared to withdraw 3/400 yards here to improve defensive positions vic Q-8039. A small enemy pocket remained here from the attack of the previous day and friendly advance here met continuing resistance. A fire fight took place at Q-8239 at 171100A and strong enemy probing actions were initiated in the Q-8139 grid square, with a small infiltration vic Q-8138. There were patrol fights at Q-8038 and Q-7838 and an attempt by 25 enemy to capture friendly roadblock vic Q-7639 was repulsed.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

A 25-man enemy patrol was dispersed vic Q-6353 in the 44th Div sector early in the period. Other enemy activity consisted only of small scale patrolling and light harassing artillery fire.

(c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Corps front remained quiet except for scattered artillery fire.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

No Tac/R missions were flown 17 January, but night fighters reported generally heavy highway traffic night 16/17 January vic SAARBRUCKEN (Q-4541), LEBACH (Q-4090), HOMBURG (Q-7080), NEUNKIRCHEN (Q-6083) and ST WENDEL (Q-5897).

(2) Parachutists.

Unknown number paratroopers dropped 12 miles NE of LUXEUIL (V-0321) at 172205A. One killed, three captured.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 161800A to 171800A Jan: 85 (including 26 deserters, 4 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 171800A Jan: 133,119. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

b. Weather Forecast.

19 Jan: Cloudy with scattered rain and snow showers. Visibility 1-3 miles in morning, improving to 3-5 miles in afternoon. Wind westerly, 6-8 m.p.h. Minimum temperature 19° F.

20 Jan: Overcast skies during day with scattered snow showers over Vosges Mountains. Sky becoming partly cloudy at night. Visibility 1-2 miles in snow, improving to 4-5 miles elsewhere. Wind from NW 6-8 m.p.h. Colder. Minimum temperature 12° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn

WILLIAM W. QUINN,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2.

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APO 758 US ARMYCopy No. 26From: 172400A Jan 45
To : 182400A Jan 45Ref. No. X-342G-2 REPORTHq. Seventh Army
In the Field
190600A January 1945

No. 157

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
- b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)

(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.7th Para Div.20th Para Regt.

Elmts 3rd Bn. - vic N of HATTEN (R-1833)

20th Mortar Bn.

Elmts identified vic HERRLISHEIM (R-1315)

(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 2nd SS Police Regt.Officer PW stated 2nd SS Police Regt under command
553rd VG Div.2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

In Southern zone the enemy remained generally quiet and continued to improve his defenses in the THUR River Valley. Little change reported in central VOSGES sector with enemy continuing quiet. In Northern zone the enemy also remained quiet. Harassing artillery fire fell on east and south edges of SELESTAT (V-7761), vic DAINBACH (V-7769), SIGOLSHEIM (V-6748), KIENZHEIM (V-6448), BENNWIR (V-6949) and vic KAYSERSBERG (V-6448). Farther north, large caliber shells reported falling in VENDENHEIM (Q-9707), WANTZENAU (R-0606), and SOUFFELWEYERSHEIM (R-0004).

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

Strong enemy pressure with infantry and armor continued in SESSENHEIM (R-1822) and HERRLISHEIM (R-1315) areas with enemy apparently reinforcing this sector as barge movements observed on RHINE River late in day. Fighting continued in HATTEN (R-1733) and RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) with pressure decreasing slightly during day as enemy apparently attempted to regroup. In HARDT Mountain salient enemy continued strong resistance and infiltration tactics. Northeast of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) enemy entrenched vic Q-8138 after infiltrations. Farther west from this area, enemy remained generally quiet along Army front.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

In northern sector of XX Corps zone enemy showed aggressiveness in region of TETTINGEN (L-0402) with elements of 11th Pz Div and 416th Inf Div being identified. Several enemy attacks with infantry and armor were launched against both TETTINGEN and BUTZDORF (L-0403) during day with enemy reported holding half of BUTZDORF at 1800A. Estimated 25-30 tanks participated in attacks. Strong enemy patrol driven off vic NOHN (Q-1399) shortly after noon. Remainder of Corps front generally quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps area enemy armor continued active. One enemy tank vic R-1834 and one vic R-1734 destroyed at 1045A. Three tanks vic R-1634 were fired on by our artillery and observed burning. Around noon three tanks observed in HATTEN area. One of these knocked out by artillery fire and the other two withdrew. In SESSENHEIM, two or three tanks supported an infantry attack at 0700A. At 1030A, 6 tanks moving north from DENGOLSHEIM (R-1821) were shelled by our

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artillery.

In XV and XXI Corps zones no enemy armor activity reported.

(2) Artillery.

On VI Corps front ROHRWILLER (R-1217) and HERRLISHEIM each received 100 round concentrations after midnight besides earlier moderate shellings. ROHRWILLER shelled again with 50 rounds at 1050A. Between 1520A and 1540A 60 rounds of mixed caliber received in RITTERSHOFFEN. A 100 round concentration vic Q-8138 fell between 1710A and 1730A. Aside from these large concentrations, enemy artillery was limited to small and intermittent harassing concentrations in support of enemy counterattacks in eastern half of Corps zone.

In XV Corps zone, SARREINSBERG (Q-7441), in 100th Div sector, received the usual 50 to 60 rounds from 1500A to 1600A followed by 15 rounds at 1940A. Road vic Q-5458 in 44th Div zone shelled with 10 rounds at 1240A. At 1640A crossroads vic Q-6450 hit by 15 rounds. Road vic Q-6350 interdicted from 1640A to 1655A by 12 rounds of estimated 105mm. Between 1630A and 1700A 10 interdiction rounds landed vic road at Q-6450. Forward elements of 44th and 100th Divs received 2 or 3 rounds harassing concentrations at various times throughout period.

In XXI Corps zone enemy artillery continued negligible. One shelling reported vic Q-4661.

(3) Aviation.

Three ME 109s were reported over VI Corps zone north of STRASBOURG during afternoon.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In 12th Armd Div zone fighting continued vic HERRLISHEIM with enemy infiltrations supported by armor. Counterattack by infantry and tanks from OFFENDORF (R-1312) towards HERRLISHEIM broken up by artillery fire. Six enemy tanks reported in northeast edge of town. Barge movements of 5 to 10 barges each movement, observed vic R-1511 at 1630A and R-1714 at 1655A which are apparently enemy reinforcements. In 79th Div front, 12-man patrol penetrated to vic R-1632 and attacked RR station south of RITTERSHOFFEN. Estimated platoon observed digging in vic R-1046. Early in period heavy traffic heard going from HATTEN to BUHL (R-1935). Attack estimated at 2 Cos in strength supported by approx 3 tanks captured SESSENHEIM and two pillboxes vic R-1821 at 0700A. 6 tanks and 60-70 infantry observed moving north from DENGOLSHEIM fired on by artillery. Enemy patrol driven off vic KAUFFENHEIM (R-2128). Enemy attack on BOIS DE SESSENHEIM (R-1720) succeeded in capturing most of woods. Estimated 3 Cos observed crossing MODER River vic R-1720 at 1645A. Later in period patrol activity increased in KAUFFENHEIM - LEUTENHEIM (R-2027) area. AUENHEIM (R-2023) received mortar and SP fire from ROESCHWOOG (R-2225) where 4 tanks and activity reported. In 14th Armd Div zone, enemy attack on HATTEN by infantry and one tank repulsed at 0700A. Tanks and infantry emerged from smoke screen vic R-1734 and enemy holding pillboxes in that vicinity. In latter half of period enemy movement in HATTEN with tanks and infantry, strength unknown, dispersed by artillery fire. Fighting in HATTEN and RITTERSHOFFEN continues. 103rd Div front generally quiet except eastern portion where occasional SA, mortar and artillery fire reported. Enemy in dug in positions vic CLILBACH (R-0846). In 45th Div zone continued infiltration attempts vic Q-8138 and enemy attack this area preceded and supported by heavy artillery concentrations. Heavy resistance from MG, mortar and AT fire encountered from organized defensive line vic Q-8340 - Q-8339.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

Corps front remained generally quiet.

(c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Corps front generally quiet. Attempted infiltrations at four points vic GRANDE/ROSSELLE (Q-3467) at 1940A broken up by artillery fire.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

Tac/R flew one special mission between 1445A and 1515A over RHINE north of STRASBOURG. There were no serviceable bridges observed across RHINE from STRASBOURG north to and including the

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former SELTZ-RASTATT railbridge at R-2727. Comparing pilot's report of "dismantled" pontoon bridges with photo information as to known ferry sites, indicates that there are probably no pontoon bridges under construction in this area at present time, but that there are several active ferries in operation. Observation was considerably restricted by altitude and speed flow. The only reports of activity, other than ferry landing sites, were 3-4 M/T moving both ways over bridge vic R-1820 (over a Rhine tributary). Some activity at ferry site near SELTZ bridge, M/T and troops moving about near ferry site vic R-1717, and two covered pontoon sections being towed south by tug at R-2522.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 171800A to 181800A Jan: 300 (including 2 deserters, 2 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 181800A Jan: 133,419. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

b. Weather Forecast.

20 Jan: Overcast with rain and snow showers in morning, and broken low clouds in afternoon. Visibility 1-2 miles at dawn, 5-6 by 1100A. Wind from West and northwest 20-25 m.p.h., diminishing in afternoon. Minimum temperature at dawn 25° F.

21 Jan: Clear sky at night with increasing low clouds during day. Visibility 6 miles at dawn and 10 miles in afternoon. Wind west 12 m.p.h. Minimum temperature 22° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimated No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN, *mm*
 Colonel, G. S. C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2.

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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No. 158

Map:: GSGS 1:249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

 From: 182400A Jan 45
 To : 192400A Jan 45

 Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 200600A January 1945
1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
 b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)

(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.10th SS Pz Div.22nd SS PGR.1st Bn. - vic R-1316. Elmts 3rd Bn - 12th Armd Div sector.7th Para Div.19th Para Regt.1st Bn. - vic SESSENHEIM (R-1822).21st Pz. Div.21st Pz Rcn Bn. - - - N of RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533)25th PG Div.Elmts 35th PGR - vic HATTEN (R-1733)SS Reichsfuhrer Escort Bn. - vic HERRLISHEIM (R-1214)6th SS Mtn Div.11th SS Mtn Regt.Elmts 1st Bn. - vic Q-8340Elmts 506th SS Bn. - vic Q-8340257th VG Div.457th GR.2nd Bn. - vic Q-7541(b) XV U.S. Corps.17th SS PG Div.Elmts 38th SS PGR - vic Q-6055(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 10th SS Pz Div.

PGR's of 10th SS Pz Div composed of approximately 90%
 GAF personnel.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army

Enemy remained generally quiet throughout period although on extreme north flank heavy caliber artillery fire was reported on WANTZENAU (R-0606) and SOUFFELWEYERSHEIM (R-0004). Farther south, harassing artillery fire was reported at KRAFFT (V-9780) and ERSTEIN (V-9480). Otherwise enemy activity was negligible.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

/// In HERRLISHEIM (R-1214) area, where major elmts of 10th SS Pz Div have now been identified, enemy provided heavy pressure throughout period. The ZORN canal, west and southwest of HERRLISHEIM, was crossed in strength by enemy infantry and tanks while DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) was attacked and surrounded. Farther north in SESSENHEIM (R-1822) area, elmts of 7th Para Div offered strong opposition to counterattack by friendly troops. In HATTEN (R-1733) - RITTERSHOFFEN (R-1533) area elmts 21st Pz and 25th PG Divs continued to be identified and two attacks on HATTEN were repulsed. In HARDT Mountains, 256th and 6th SS Mtn Divs, heavily supported by artillery, continue aggressive. Two attacks, in 2 Co strength each, were beaten off north of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037), while enemy by infiltration reinforced his isolated garrisons on Hills 363 (Q-8238) and 364 (Q-8339). The remainder of the Army front continued quiet.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

In XX Corps sector, 11th Pz Div, after a one day show of

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aggressiveness, quieted down during period. The only action reported was an unsuccessful attempt at 0500A of a 40-man enemy patrol to penetrate forward positions vic of BESCH (L-0101). Enemy had, during previous period, succeeded in taking BUTZDORF (L-0403) but failed in attempt to take TETTINGEN (L-0402). Aerial rcn observed no significant movement during period, and enemy was quiet remainder of XX Corps front.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

Armor in strength, apparently belonging to 10th SS Pz Div, made its appearance in the HERRLISHEIM area during period. At dark, an estimated 44 tanks and/or SP guns were reported west of the ZORN canal. Farther north, 6 Mark VI tanks and 3 SP guns were reported vic of SESSENHEIM, and 3-5 tanks operated in the HATTEN area during day. In XV Corps sector enemy armor remained quiet. One tank was observed at Q-5956 and another tank or SP gun was observed at Q-6057. XXI Corps made negative report.

(2) Artillery.

VI Corps reports little change in the moderate degree of enemy's artillery activity, however, his effort has apparently shifted from the HOFFEN (R-1536) area to the area northeast of REIPERTSWILLER. Some increase occurred in the bridgehead sector also, but the largest portion of the enemy shelling was directed into the 45th Div sector. Around noon, supplementing his artillery with rockets and mortars, the enemy opened up with a series of preparations and neutralization fires. The Q-8137 and Q-8238 areas were the hardest hit with other concentrations reported vic WILDENGUTH (Q-7838), REIPERTSWILLER and PHILIPPSBOURG. Between 1430A and 1530A, an estimated total of 400 rounds fell into the Q-8138 area. In the bridgehead area ROHRWILLER (R-1217) was the target of a rather heavy concentration (50-100 rounds) during the night but otherwise shelling was lighter and more scattered than usual. Except for moderate concentrations vic REIMERSWILLER (R-1035), WEYERSHEIM (R-0512) and south of HATTEN, the morning was also quiet. Later in day WEYERSHEIM received 50-60 rounds between 1220A and 1235A, while the HOFFEN - RITTERSHOFFEN area received only occasional 20-40 rounds of harassing concentrations.

In XV Corps, enemy artillery maintained the slow pace of the previous period. The heaviest concentration reported was 15 rounds of harassing fire on road at Q-656507. The town of GUISSING (Q-6552) was lightly shelled as well as was SARRIENSBERG (Q-7441). A friendly OP vic Q-6450 received 12 rounds of neutralization fire and road vic LEMBERG (Q-7444) received some harassing fire.

Enemy artillery in XXI Corps was negligible.

(3) Aviation.

In VI Corps sector enemy aircraft were active on rcn missions. Four missions were flown consisting of 10 sorties. No hostile acts were reported and enemy aircraft avoided AAA defenses.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

12th Armd Div reports that enemy exerted heavy pressure throughout period. Early in morning, enemy attacked bridge over ZORN canal (R-0812) and by 1645A had succeeded in crossing infantry supported by ten tanks. Later, at 1715A, 400 enemy and 17 tanks had crossed at same point. Earlier, an attack west of HERRLISHEIM was contained and an estimated Co which had crossed the ZORN canal in rubber boats south of town was forced to withdraw. However, at 1645A, a group of 200 infantry and 17 tanks were reported crossing the ZORN at HERRLISHEIM and moving in direction of BISCHWILLER (R-0818). 100 enemy with 3 tanks were observed east of STEINWALD woods (R-1111) and at 1800A an enemy attack with armor support was reported being directed against friendly troops in woods vic R-0914. At beginning of period, a 3 Co attack on ROHRWILLER was repulsed. In 79th Div sector enemy, while not as aggressive as in previous period, showed signs of local regrouping and preparation for a continuation of the attack. Friendly troops in counterattack met strong resistance in SESSENHEIM and BOIS DE SESSENHEIM (R-1720). At

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DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) enemy was quiet throughout day but heavy traffic was observed between HERRLISHEIM and DRUSENHEIM and indications of enemy build-up continued in latter town until dark when enemy attacked and succeeded in surrounding town. In HAGUENAU Forest, a 50-man patrol was dispersed by friendly OP vic R-2031. 14th Armd Div reports that enemy renewed his attacks in the HATTEN area. At 0800A a strong attack by infantry supported by tanks was made against HATTEN from northeast, east, and southeast, which was repulsed by 0900A. At noon enemy tried again, gaining some ground this time but by 1530A apparently the impetus of the attack had been lost, although sniping continued in east part of town. Enemy in RITTERSHOFFEN withdrew from strongpoint in church, but retained strong positions in adjacent buildings and remained sensitive to friendly advances in this area. Considerable movement was observed throughout period. Earlier, north to south from OBERSEEBACH (R-1840), to ASCHBACH (R-1837), to STUNDWILLER (R-1836), and later from WISSEMBOURG to RIEDELTZ (R-1543) to OBERSEEBACH. 103rd Div sector was comparatively quiet. A 7-man patrol was observed at R-0045 and patrol clashes were reported at Q-9040 and Q-8943. In 45th Div sector enemy pockets on Hill 363 (Q-8238) and Hill 364 (Q-8339) continued to offer strong resistance with enemy strengthening these positions by infiltrations. North of REIPERTSWILLER a strong enemy patrol was dispersed during the night and later in morning enemy made two attacks each in 2 Co strength, one at 0800A and another at 1125A. Both attacks were contained but 45th Div reports the enemy is aggressive and determined in this area, and that all attacks are supported by exceptionally heavy artillery and mortar concentrations. (b) Enemy in XV and XXI Corps sectors remained quiet.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

Aerial recon during period was somewhat limited by weather conditions. One Tac/R missions at approx 1600A into SARREGUEMINES-SAARBRUCKEN - SAARLAUTERN (Q-2981) area observed no movement. Another mission at 1500A, observed through break in clouds an estimated 15 M/T moving SW vicinity WISSEMBOURG.

The bulk of observations reported were in the bridgehead area north of STRASBOURG, most of which were made by F/B's. At 1230A 30 plus tanks and M/T were reported parked and facing toward river on roads vic R-2619, and 16 tanks were reported at the same time just south of DRUSENHEIM at R-1618. At approx 1530A, 20-30 M/T were parked in and just south of LICHTENAU (R-2014) mostly heading north, and 35 plus M/T were observed moving toward the river at R-145085, while 20 plus M/T ortanks, personnel and 5 barges were seen at the rivers edge R-14110. There were also a few other M/T and H/D/V moving about generally south of FREISTATT (R-1509). F/B's reported an apparently unsuccessful attempt to bomb a bridge at R-171171, the site of the former DRUSENHEIM bridge. This is the first report of a bridge in this area. Three tanks with red panels, facing south vic R-225325 and 5-7 M/T parked vic SELTZ (R2733) were seen during latter part of the afternoon.

Rail movements were generally unobserved throughout the area, with the exception of 4 trains noted in the NEUSTADT (R-2884) - SCHIFFERSTADT (R-4688) - SPEYER (R-5282) area and 2 trains moving both ways vic GENGEBACH (W-2178).

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PW Statements.

PW 1st Co, 22nd SS PGR stated his Co crossed RHINE on 16 Jan.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 181800A to 191800A Jan: 154 (including 20 deserters, 1 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 191800A Jan: 133,573. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army; 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

C O N F I D E N T I A Lc. Weather Forecast.

21 Jan: Clear in early morning, becoming scattered to broken low clouds after 0930A. No precipitation. Visibility 2-3 miles at dawn due to haze and light fog, improving rapidly to 6-8 miles after 0930A. Wind northwest 4-8 m.p.h. Colder. Minimum temperature 25° F.

22 Jan: High clouds in early morning with scattered low clouds after 1100A, becoming overcast after 2000A. Overcast middle clouds after 1200A. No precipitation except light snow after 2200A. Visibility $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 mile, improving to 3-4 miles after 1100A. Wind southwest 4-8 m.p.h., increasing to 12-14 after 1600A. Colder. Minimum temperature 16° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn

WILLIAM W. QUINN, *WB*
 Colonel, G. S. C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2.

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From: 192400A Jan 45
 To : 202400A Jan 45

Ref. No. X-374

G-2 REPORT

Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 210600A January 1945

No. 159

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)

(1) New Identifications.

(a) VI U.S. Corps.

10th SS Pz Div.

21st SS PGR.

Elmts 2nd Bn. - vic ROHRWILLER (R-1217)

25th PG Div.

119th PGR.

125th Pz Rcn Bn. - vic R-1832

(2) Organization and Strength.

(a) First Army.

Officer PW states Gen. OBSTFELDER CG First Army.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.

a. General Summary.

(1) First French Army.

I Corps attack in MULHOUSE (V-7004) sector drew counterattacks at Hill 639 (V-5413) and in PFASTATT (V6708) and ILLZACH (V-7109) areas but late in period enemy was reported cleared from PFASTATT and ILLZACH, and LUTTENBACH (V-6607) was being mopped up. Fighting was in progress at VIEUX THANN (V-5412). In II Corps zone an attempted raid at V-6749 by infantry and 2 tanks was stopped by friendly artillery. Infantry, MD and light M/T moving northwest at V-5542 were taken under fire by friendly artillery. SIGOLSHEIM (V-6848) received heavy harassing artillery and mortar fire. Night of 19 January 17 tanks moving southwest from STEINWALD Forest (R-1011) taken under fire; 6 destroyed, others retired.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

On the eastern part of the front an enemy attack vic R-0914 was repulsed early in the morning, and fighting continued at DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) but there was a general lessening of enemy activity in this sector, possibly because of either bad weather or regrouping of forces. In the HARDT Mountains enemy offered continuous strong opposition to 45th Div forces attacking in effort to relieve battalion cut off NE of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037). Elsewhere contact was very slight.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps reported a heavy artillery barrage from 0600A to 0730A in the SAARLAUTERN (Q-2880) - RODEN (Q-2881) area followed by enemy attack by 50 men who were repulsed. An estimated company of infantry attacked TETTINGEN (L-0402) at 2200A and two attacks, by infantry and tanks, were launched at WIES (L-0205) at 0600A and 2200A.

Operations of Component Elements.

(1) Armored Force.

VI Corps reported 12 tanks stationary at R-1114 at 1000A. Sixteen Sherman tanks stationary at R-1213 (enemy probably using captured American tanks). Eight tanks immovable at R-1215 at 1100A. At 1130A one enemy tank observed moving N at HERRLISHEIM (R-1214). Four enemy tanks S part of HATTEN (R-1733) between 1040A and 1200A. Enemy tanks active in DRUSENHEIM during the afternoon. One enemy tank observed at R-0915 at 1350A, and 6 tanks reported vic R-0912 at 1500A. Thirty rounds SP fire vic HORN (Q-7540). XV Corps reported no activity.

2-1136

C O N F I D E N T I A Lartillery.

In VI Corps sector, there was a considerable decrease in enemy artillery activity during the period, probably due to snow and poor visibility. Light counterbattery concentrations were received from mixed calibers in MERKWILLER (R-0637) - SURBOURG (R-0834) areas. 100 to 200 rounds of artillery, mortar, and rocket fire fell on infantry of 45th Div NE of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) between 2010A and 2020A, also 40-50 rounds in WINGEN (Q-7336) area, with lighter harassing fires vic ALTHORN - LICHTENBERG (Q-8135). ROHRWILLER (R-1217) received a few heavy concentrations during the night. The artillery groupment which has been most responsible for heavy fire on the 45th Div infantry the past few days appears to be located in the MOUTERHOUSE (Q-7942) - BAERANTHAL (Q-8342) valley.

In XV Corps zone, enemy artillery continued to place small concentrations on forward elements with some harassing fire on towns in extreme right of Corps sector. 30 rounds light caliber received in LEMBERG (Q-7445) at 1415A, with lighter concentrations falling on road at Q-5956, the high ground at Q-7544, the road at Q-7150, HOTTVILLER (Q-7253) and in SIERSTHAL (Q-7149).

In XXI Corps sector, enemy artillery activity was light with several 1 or 2 round harassing fires and one mission of 7 rounds, probably a registration, vic BOUSHACH (Q-4361).

(3) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

Heavy AW fire against 36th Div positions vic R-0914 at 0600A preceded attack by estimated 150 enemy vic R-0914 - R-0815 at 0630A which was repulsed. During balance of period only enemy observed were 20 vic R-1218, 75 vic R-1111, and 75 vic R-1212, the latter moving SW. One tank and unknown number infantry moving W at R-0915. Fighting continued in DRUSENHEIM where battalion of 79th Div was encircled as result of enemy attack of previous night. Tracked vehicle movement was reported heard in BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM (R-1417) and early in the day pressure was being exerted on the S side of BOIS de RUNTZENHEIM (R-1823). Farther north, enemy infantry were reported vic R-1932. 14th Armd Div reported enemy patrols active in the HATTEN (R-1834) area during the night 19/20 and 4 enemy tanks in the southern part of town in the morning, but the sector was quiet throughout the day. The 103rd Div sector was quiet. The 45th Div attack vic Q-8238 received opposition consisting of heavy artillery, mortar and MG fire. Friendly raiding party W of REINHACH (Q-8339) drew heavy fire, and close SE contact was maintained vic Q-7838. Patrols reported enemy entrenched vic Q-7638.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

Enemy movement heard in RIMLING (Q-5655) during night and early morning but there was little contact. Sniper and MG fire harassed friendly troops vic Q-7253 throughout the day and three small enemy patrols were repulsed by the 44th Div.

(c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Only slight patrol activity was reported.

c. Miscellaneous.(a) Movements.

Weather prevented Tac/R flights.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. Counterintelligence.

With capture by combat troops of 100th Div of female agent posing as a civilian refugee, Seventh U.S. Army reached a total of 100 confessed spies and saboteurs captured since D-Day, 15 August 1944.

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 191800A to 201800A Jan: 27 (including 8 deserters, 2 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 201800A Jan: 133,600. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944).

C O N F I D E N T I A Lc. Weather Forecast.

22 Jan: Clear in morning, becoming partly cloudy at sunrise. Intermittent snow showers over Vosges Mtns throughout day after 1100A. Visibility 1-2 miles at dawn in light fog, improving to 5 miles by 1100A. Visibility will lower to 1-2 miles in snow showers over mountain districts. Slightly cooler with minimum temperature 20° F.

23 Jan: Middle clouds throughout the day with broken low clouds after mid-morning. Snow in late afternoon. Visibility 1/2-1 mile due to fog, improving to 3-4 miles after 1100A. Wind NW 8-10 m.p.h. Minimum temperature 24° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2.

1 Encl:
Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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From: 202400A Jan 45
To : 212400A Jan 45

Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
220600A January 1945

Copy No. 26Ref. No. X-393G-2 REPORT

No. 160

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.
b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)

(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.36th VG Div.165th GR.Elmts 1 Bn. - vic Q-9544(b) XXI U.S. Corps.19th Inf Div.Elmts 59th GR - vic LIXING (Q-4662)(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 245th VG Div.PW states CP 245th VG Div at ERLBACH (R-0957)(b) 21st Pz Div.PWs 21st Pz Div state rumor circulating that Div is to be relieved.(c) Army Group Upper Rhine.Captured document dated 13 Jan. confirms that HIMMLER in his capacity of CG Army Group Upper RHINE is in command of bridgehead N of STRASBOURG.(d) 165th GR.New location of 165th GR indicates eastward switch of 36th VG Div, possibly to facilitate 6th SS Mtn Div to squeeze in between 256th and 36th Divs.(e) XXXIX Panzer Corps.

PWs from the 1st Bn, 19th Para Regt stated they arrived at SCHLEITHAL (R-2143) 11 Jan. to be committed in the HATTEN area. However, orders were changed on 14 Jan. Unit left in trucks to MAXIMILIANSAU (R-4048), crossing Rhine on bridge at R-415487. (This bridge is damaged but trucks can cross if not too heavily loaded.) Unit then traveled to HUGELSHEIM (R-2722) overnight and re-crossed Rhine into the bridgehead on ferry which carried one Co. at a time, at R-235211. (Comment: This possibly indicates that XXXIX Pz Corps, which was presumed responsible for the HATTEN sector, in control of 21st Pz, 25th PG and 7th Para Divs, extended its sector, thus becoming also responsible for the bridgehead.)

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Enemy continued stubborn resistance with street fighting in RICHMILLER (V-6609) and VIEUX THANN (V-5412). Counterattacks were repulsed N of BOUTZWILLER (V-6908) and vic ORBEY (V-5747). At close of period LUTTERBACH (V-6607) and KINGERSHEIM (V-7010) were clear but the enemy still held REININGUE (V-6205). Enemy patrols attacking the navigation post vic WANTZENAU (R-0606) were repulsed.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

During first half of period enemy contact was light with limited aggressiveness shown in HERRLISHEIM area and an alert defense in the BITCHE salient where patrol clashes occurred. Later in day heavy pressure was built up and maintained on the Army's east flank by the enemy's probing actions in which armor and strong patrols were employed, particularly in the OBERHOFFEN (R-0920) - HERRLISHEIM (R-1314) area.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps reports attack vic NENNIG (L-0204) at 2100A by unestimated number infantry with tank support, and at 2120A an infantry attack on TETTINGEN (L-0402). Enemy occupied WIES (L-0205).

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps sector about 27 enemy tanks were operating W and SW of HERRLISHEIM; 9 were knocked out. 6 to 18 tanks were reported N of BISCHWILLER. In XV Corps zone, 44th Div reported two enemy tanks at Q-6155 at 1030A. In XXI Corps sector no activity reported.

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps sector, due to lack of observation caused by adverse weather and our displacement, enemy artillery activity showed a further decrease over the light activity of the previous period. Artillery action during the night was limited to fairly heavy harassing fires on KURTZENHAUSEN (R-0515) and vic R-0815 just before midnight. Forward elements of 45th Div drew light, scattered fire prior to noon from 88's and 105's, including one 20 round concentration in REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) area. Between 1350A and 1405A INGWILLER (Q-8130) was harassed by 88's and 105's. Intermittent concentrations of 3 to 8 rounds of 150 caliber fell in REIPERTSWILLER for the rest of afternoon. At close of period our infantry vic WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) received 22 rounds estimated 105. The BAERENTHAL area was again responsible for majority of activity on Corps front with the bridgehead area furnishing the only other activity.

In XV Corps zone no activity was reported during the morning hours but there was a gradual build-up until noon and then a gradual decrease till the end of period. Forward areas were hit by from 2 to 8 rounds at a time over the entire right sector of the Corps zone. Direct fire was placed on the road junction vic Q-6450 every time a vehicle approached. 20 rounds estimated medium caliber fell on troops at Q-6954 around 1000A. The area vic Q-7055 was shelled by 15 rounds at 1000A. 16 rounds of harassing fire fell on forward elements vic Q-6650. Area vic Q-6644 received 14 rounds of harassing fire from 1600A to 1800A. A few scattered rounds were reported on forward elements and towns at the close of the period.

In XXI Corps sector activity continued to be light. 7 rounds were reported during the period, consisting primarily of harassing fire upon forward elements. The heaviest shelling in the sector was reported by TF HERREN and consisted of 12 rounds light caliber in the vic of BOUSHACH (Q-4361).

(3) Aviation.

No enemy air activity was reported on the Seventh U.S. Army front.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

An estimated 75 enemy moving toward WEYERSHEIM (R-0512) were dispersed at 202330A. Later a fire fight developed vic R-0815 and close contact was maintained in this area. At about 211200A 15 enemy tanks and an undetermined number of half-tracks and infantry demonstrated between the woods at R-0815 and R-0914. At the same time 12 tanks plus infantry were observed moving toward WEYERSHEIM. This armored activity died down shortly after two tanks were destroyed and three others hit. There was considerable activity in woods at R-1011 and at 1540A a 30-40 man group was taken under artillery fire vic R-0915. By the end of the period enemy armor had become active again with 18 tanks reported moving into OBERNOFFEN (R-0920) and one tank covered by five others was firing into BISCHWILLER (R-0918) from vic R-0915 near a blown bridge. The 45th Div reported the enemy alert to our patrol activity and fire fights developed vic Q-7639 and Q-7640. A 15-20 man enemy patrol was dispersed by mortar fire at about 1200A vic Q-7739.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

The XV Corps sector remained generally quiet with enemy alert

C O N F I D E N T I A L

to patrols. Some harassing artillery fire was received and a flak wagon was in action against friendly positions vic Q-7450.
 (c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Little activity reported on XXI Corps front with only light scattered artillery fire and patrolling. Friendly patrols report OETING (Q-4064) apparently deserted. 6-8 enemy on skis observed vic Q-3671 moving north at 1645A.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

No Tac/R missions were flown due to weather. Ground observation reports 2 RR trains entering FORBACH (Q-3966) at 211845A. Considerable motor movement observed in GAMBSHEIM (R-1110) at 211520A.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 201800A to 211800A Jan: 55 (including 9 deserters, 2 wounded.) Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 211800A Jan: 133,655. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)


b. Weather Forecast.

23 Jan: Partly cloudy at dawn. Increasing cloudiness throughout day with few scattered snow showers over Vosges in afternoon. Visibility 6-10 miles, lowering to 2-3 miles in snow showers. Sky clear after sunset. Wind NW, 8 mph. Minimum temperature 26° F.

24 Jan: Partly cloudy in morning, becoming cloudy in afternoon. Light snow beginning after sunset. Visibility 1 mile or less at dawn in fog, increasing to 2-4 miles after 1200A. Wind from W, 5-7 mph. Minimum temperature 28° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimated No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN,
 Colonel, G. S. C., 
 A. C. of S., G-2.

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map

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Copy No. 26Ref. No. X-405G-2 REPORT

No. 161

From: 212400A Jan 45
To : 222400A Jan 45Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
230600A January 1945

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map
- b. Units in Contact. (See Attached Map)

(1) New Identifications.(a) First French Army.

Elmts 2nd Mtn Div - vic KINGERSHEIM (V-7110)

(2) Organization and Strength.(a) 7th Para Div.

Usually reliable source locates CP 7th Para Div at SCHIRNHEIM (R-1222).

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

Advance in southern zone continues to meet strong resistance with several counterattacks reported. Stubborn opposition offered vic CERNAY (V-5812) and enemy counterattack south of town repulsed after some loss of ground. Fighting in progress vic GRAFFENWALD Woods (V-6009) where enemy elements infiltrated. Enemy infantry and armor attack vic KINGERSHEIM (V-7010) repulsed and elements of 2nd Mtn Div reported identified. Enemy infantry counterattack on ILLZAC (V-7109) repulsed. Northeast of THANN enemy counterattack against hill vic V-5414 succeeded in gaining some ground. North of COLMAR two enemy attacks on BENNWILLER (V-6949) and attack on bridge east of town failed. After midnight enemy attack on KILSTETT (R-0808) supported by armor repulsed by 0400A. Another attack at 0600A same vic encircled town but friendly counterattack restored situation.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

In WEYERSHEIM (R-0412) - BISCHWILLER (R-0818) region armor and M/T movement indicates enemy build-up this area with regrouping in progress to continue offensive. Enemy continued active vic HAGUENAU (R-0323) with a few tanks and infantry observed. In HARDT Mountains enemy apparently following up our withdrawal as heavy movement of vehicles and foot troops observed moving southeast this area. Contact continued negligible in HARDT Mountains and RHINE Valley during period. Farther west along Army front there was little enemy activity.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

In XX Corps zone counterattacks vic TETTINGEN (L-0402) and NENNIG (L-0204) repulsed. However, enemy pressure continued, and an estimated Bn of infantry supported by 5-10 tanks still holding latter town. No enemy activity in SAARLAUTERN (Q-2881) bridgehead except SA and sporadic artillery fire.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps zone enemy continued to regroup his armor during period. 2 enemy tanks observed moving north from OBERHOFFEN (R-0920) during morning. 2 enemy tanks observed southeast of R-0914 during morning. 25 tanks reported moving slowly west vic R-1113 during afternoon. At 1335A, 8 to 10 tanks reported moving toward OBERHOFFEN from woods to east. 3 tanks observed vic R-0812 at 1415A. Enemy tanks vic R-0424 fired on bridge site vic R-0424 and north part of HAGUENAU. 1 enemy tank reported vic R-0524. Unknown number of tanks observed vic R-0524 at 1700A. 2 tanks observed moving into ZINSWILLER (Q-8936) from direction of OBERBERONN (Q-9138) at 1440A. 6 armored cars

- 1 -

C O N F I D E N T I A L

L-1136

C O N F I D E N T I A L

in REICHSHOFFEN (Q-9436) at 1400A. 1 tank or SP gun vic Q-8237 engaged and silenced by our artillery at 1210A. 1 Mark IV tank observed northeast edge of HAGUENAU in early part of afternoon. Approximately 35 tanks observed in the right sector during the period. XV Corps: At 1530A friendly artillery reported 2 SPs observed vic Q-7547. They were taken under fire resulting in 1 SP destroyed and 1 probably destroyed. In XXI Corps sector no armored activity reported.

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps zone in keeping with the slight infantry contact during period, enemy artillery fire was generally light and scattered. During night GEUDERTHEIM (R-0113) was lightly interdicted and forward infantry positions in 45th Div sector drew sporadic harassing fire. Light concentrations, varying from 10 to 20 rounds, fell vic WEITHRUCH (R-0317) and in woods vic R-0815 at various times during day. The lack of enemy artillery may be attributed to forward displacements now occurring. Except for eastern flank and in 45th Div sector, where batteries within range are already located, it is believed that many batteries will remain silent until the bulk of the enemy artillery has closed into position and offensive operations commence. Horse-drawn artillery observed vic SCHIRNHEIM (R-1222) and in the CAMP D'OBERHOFFEN (R-0821) area.

In XV Corps sector, period continued quiet with generally 2-5 rounds harassing fire reported from 0645A to 1430A. Most of the artillery employed by enemy was of light caliber, especially 88mm. Forward elements mostly in areas north of ROHRBACH (Q-6549) and towns on the right flank of Corps zone were harassed. At 0630A BETTVILLER (Q-6753) harassed by 20 rounds light caliber. Forward elements vic Q-6353 reported artillery consisting of 10-12 rounds. SARREINSBERG (Q-7441) shelled by 30 rounds from 1300A to 1330A. Friendly troops vic Q-5956 shelled by two guns with approximately 20 rounds from 1420A to 1440A. 15 rounds fell in LEMBERG (Q-7345) at 1430A and 20 rounds at 1600A. Crossroads vic Q-7540 shelled by 10 rounds during afternoon.

In XXI Corps zone little enemy artillery activity reported during period. Eight shellings received, the heaviest being one concentration of 12 rounds light caliber in the sector of 106th Cav Gp. All other shelling reported concerned light caliber harassing fire on forward elements.

(3) Aviation.

Two P-47s, under enemy control, strafed vic Q-6748 SE of ROHRBACH with 2 other P-47s flying top cover. Aircraft reported marked with red noses and tails, and wings marked with black crosses. AAA engaged these aircraft with hits observed.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In 36th Div zone enemy contact negligible but build-up in sector continued with infantry, tanks and MD arty. Air OP reports estimated enemy Co. dug in along creek vic R-0812. Est 38 vehicles including 1 U.S. jeep and possibly U.S. trucks reported vic R-0919. Ground OP observed 6 personnel carriers unloading infantry vic R-1119. Considerable vehicular activity R-1013 and on HERRLISHEIM (R-1214) - WEYERSHEIM road. On 79th Div front unknown number of infantry and tanks reported vic CAMP D'OBERHOFFEN at 0330A. Friendly OP engaged heavy enemy combat patrol vic R-0525 at 0100A. Some infantry, tanks and M/T reported vic HAGUENAU. In 103rd Div zone air OP observed column of foot troops moving SE on road from Q-8539 to Q-8936 at 1650A. Enemy troops in black uniforms vic ZINSWILLER (Q-8935) forced friendly rcn elements to withdraw after fire fight. Enemy also in black uniforms observed manning MGs one Km. NE of GUNDBRECHTSHOFFEN (Q-9133). On 45th Div front enemy infiltrations reported vic Q-8238 and patrol contacts vic Q-7639 early in period. Air OP reports column of estimated 100 vehicles extending from vic Q-8539 to BAERENTHAL (Q-8442) at 1650A. At the same time, another column observed between WALDECK (Q-8446) and vic Q-8242. Late in period enemy succeeded in infiltrating behind friendly OPL into OFFWILLER (Q-8534).

C O N F I D E N T I A L

- (b) XV U.S. Corps.
Sector generally quiet.
- (c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Friendly OP reports BEHREN (Q-4263) evacuated. Heavy resistance encountered from well-developed defensive position occupied by enemy in estimated platoon strength vic Q-3370.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

Tac/R flew 3 successful missions during latter part of afternoon with observations somewhat limited by weather. From STRASBOURG north to LAUTERBURG (R-3242) no activity observed along RHINE at approx 1435A though F/Bs bombed a reported tank concentration in woods vic R-1112 at 1445A. F/Bs reported no rail activity between and in vic of NEUSTADT (R-2984) and LANDAU (R-2866) from 1300A to 1400A. Considerable vehicular movement observed on VI Corps front, particularly during afternoon. In both the areas PUELBERG (R-3147) - NERXHEIM (R-3561) and WINTZENBACH (R-2737) - NIEDERLAUTERBACH (R-2741) there were 35 plus M/T moving in all directions. Those in southern area observed at approx 1130A and those in northern area at approx 1330A. Observation in XXI Corps sector limited to run of bridges over SAAR River and immediate vic of SAARBUCKEN (Q-4571) - VOLKLINGEN (Q-3673) where no movement was seen and M/Ys in these places were empty.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 211800A to 221800A Jan: 98, Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 221800A Jan: 133,753. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

b. Weather Forecast.

24 Jan: Broken to overcast low clouds throughout period. Intermittent light snow showers. Visibility 1-3 miles at dawn, improving to 2-5 miles by 1100A. Wind West, 9 mph. Minimum temperature 24° F.

25 Jan: Clear at dawn, increasing low clouds throughout day. Generally scattered in morning, broken in afternoon. Visibility 6-10 miles. Wind NW, 12 mph. Minimum temperature 27° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN, mm 8
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2.

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Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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Ref. No. X-425

G-2 REPORT

From: 222400A Jan 45
To : 232400A Jan 45

No. 162

Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
240600A January 1945

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)

(1) New Identifications.

(a) VI U.S. Corps.

10th SS Pz Div.

21st SS PGR.

2nd Bn. - in 36th Div sector

22nd SS PGR.

Elmts 2nd & 3rd Bns. - in 36th Div sector

47th VG Div.

103rd GR.

Elmts 1st & 2nd Bns. - vic Q-9728

36th VG Div.

Elmts 87th GR - vic Q-9027

118th GR.

1st Bn. - vic Q-8830

6th SS Mtn Div.

11th SS Mtn Regt.

2nd Bn. - vic ROTHBACH (Q-8534)

256th VG Div.

476th GR.

1st Bn. - vic Q-1837

(2) Organization and Strength. Q-8137

(a) 47th VG Div.

PWs 103rd GR state 47th VG Div in MERTZWILLER (Q-9630) area. Div left DUREN 1 Jan., arriving LANDAU 10 Jan. Leaving LANDAU area 14 Jan. on foot to ASCHBACH (R-1837), committed HATTEN - RITTERSHOFFEN battle 16 Jan., where 103rd GR suffered 100 casualties.

(b) 21st Pz Rcn Bn.

Usually reliable source located 21 Pz Rcn Bn OFFENDORF - HERNLISHEIM area. (Comment: Not unlikely whole Div to follow).

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.

a. General Summary.

(1) First French Army.

Advance from area between GUENAR (V-7454) and OSTHEIM (V-7251) and crossing of L'ILL River encountered weak opposition initially but resistance increased later in morning. An estimated 300 or more infantry apparently moving NW to counterattack vic OSTHEIM caught in artillery preparation and took refuge in woods vic V-7350, and enemy now virtually surrounded there. Unestimated number of infantry and tanks attempted to counterattack vic V-7449 but were repulsed by artillery fire. Enemy on hill 216 vic V-7048 driven from positions on crest of hill and reverse slope, and fighting continues. Farther north and later in morning, attack north of GUENAR toward ILLHAUSEN (V-7753) encountered strong opposition but both towns cleared of enemy, and bridge across L'ILL River at latter town captured intact. Strong resistance met to L'ILL River crossing in area south of L'ILLWALD Forest. Later in period enemy counterattack vic V-7750 forced slight withdrawal of friendly elements. The enemy remained quiet in central VOSGES sector and along front NE of SELESTAT. In southern zone, strong resistance continued in region north of MULHOUSE. Friendly troops hold crossroads vic

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

V-6810 and V-6910 and heavy opposition met this area. Considerable artillery fire fell vic KINGERSHEIM (V-7010). Patrols report RICHWILLER (V-6609) clear of enemy.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

In RHINE Valley and eastern HARDT Mountains considerable movement of enemy troops, vehicles and armor observed in rear areas as enemy continued to build up his forces. Early in period enemy became aggressive vic OFFWILLER (Q-8534) and infiltrated behind friendly positions capturing town. At same time, enemy launched unsuccessful counterattack south of OFFWILLER vic Q-8533. Patrol activity increased along entire front east of REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) as enemy probed friendly positions during period. Artillery fire very light in RHINE Valley but single rounds of smoke reported at scattered points indicating possible registrations. Hostile aircraft were active over BISCHWILLER (R-0818) area on bombing, strafing and ren missions. Farther west along Army front, the enemy remained generally quiet. Tac/R reported 500 plus M/T in general area Q-9289, Q-9380, Q-8272, moving predominately south and southwest suggesting possible reinforcement of enemy on Army front.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

In XX Corps zone enemy continues to occupy northern part of NEMMIG (L-0204). Elsewhere in Corps zone enemy reported generally quiet.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps zone some armor heard in MIETERSHEIM (Q-9331) at 1840A. 1 tank observed N of SCHWEIGHAUSEN (R-0024). 10 to 12 tanks observed in area N of HAGUENAU (R-0423). 8 tanks reported in town of OBERHOFFEN (R-0821). Some tank or SP fire fell vic R-0716 and R-0815 during period. 6 tanks engaged by artillery vic R-0125 at 0700A. 4 tanks engaged vic R-0025 at 0800A. 2 Mark IV tanks observed along BAERENTHAL (Q-8442) - ZINSWILLER (Q-8935) road. 3 tanks stationary vic R-1215. 1 tank stationary vic R-1114. XV Corps: At 1330A 2 tanks observed vic RIMLING (Q-6555). In XXI Corps sector no enemy armor activity reported.

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps zone, enemy artillery was light during period. The largest part of the shelling fell in 36th Div sector, and on this front 4 new enemy battery locations on west side of Rhine were reported. Night activity featured a heavy concentration on KALTENHOUSE (R-0721) at 1930A and several 25-30 round concentrations on WEYERSHEIM (R-0413). A 280mm gun, this time located in vic BUHL (R-2910) fired 8 rounds into BRUMATH (Q-9714) area. WEYERSHEIM, BISCHWILLER, and woods vic R-0815 were the only places in eastern sector reported shelled during day. Elsewhere light concentrations were reported vic PFAFFENHOFFEN (Q-9027), WILDENGUTH (Q-7837) and REIPERTSWILLER, but snow that fell most of day undoubtedly curtailed enemy artillery activity considerably. Several artillery movements were observed in both 79th and 103rd Div sectors, and it is quite probable that bad road conditions have slowed up enemy displacements, causing some delay in aggressive action in these two sectors.

In XV Corps zone, the period was quiet with sporadic shelling on front line elements in the 100th and 44th Div sectors. Elements vic Q-5855 were harassed with a few rounds of 88mm on two occasions during evening. In early morning a few rounds of light caliber fell in GOETZENBRUCK (Q-7442) and SIERSTHAL (Q-7149). A short time later 30 rounds fell in LEMBERG (Q-7444). A few rounds of medium caliber fell in ROHRBACH (Q-6549) at 1030A. GUISSING (Q-6552) and road vic Q-7452 were harassed with light caliber at 1300A.

On XXI Corps front enemy artillery activity was light. A few small concentrations were reported which were apparently harassing fire or possible registration. One shelling indicated employment of a 170mm gun and this is the first indication that any weapon of this caliber is in use on Corps front.

(3) Aviation.

Enemy aircraft were active over east flank of VI Corps zone

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during period vic WEITBRUCH (R-0217). Between 0925A and 1035A several bombs were dropped and some casualties reported. Enemy aircraft again appeared this same area at 1424A. 5 ME-262s, 3 ME-109s and 1 FW-190 were sighted during day. AAA engaged enemy aircraft with hits being reported but no claims made.

(4) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

In 36th Div zone heavy casualties were inflicted on enemy combat patrols vic R-1018 and R-0917. Escaped U.S. PW reports bridges vic R-1013 - R-0913 intact and considerable number of troops and emplacements east bank of ZORN Canal, same area. Estimated 40 enemy attacked friendly outpost vic R-0816 but were repulsed. On 79th Div front considerable movement of small groups observed HAGUENAU area. Patrols active same area. Infantry and 6 tanks vic R-0125 engaged by artillery. Estimated Co. of enemy vic R-0425 dispersed by artillery fire. Air OP reports 800 enemy moving on road vic Q-9830. Considerable movement of infantry and armor into OBENHOFFEN (R-0920) area. In 103rd Div zone, enemy infiltrated behind forward positions and captured OFFWILLER. Estimated enemy in Bn. strength in town. Bn. strength counterattack vic Q-8533 repulsed. Sharp contact reported vic BITSCHHOFFEN (Q-9128). Estimated 2 Cos of enemy vic Q-9032 dispersed by artillery fire. NOTHBACH (Q-8434) occupied by enemy. Vehicular traffic moving SW vic Q-8833 engaged by friendly artillery. Group of 60 enemy contacted vic Q-9228 and 50 enemy dispersed vic Q-8735. On 45th Div front small scattered enemy patrols were active across division front during period. Approx 30 enemy vic Q-8137 taken under artillery fire.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

Sector generally quiet.

(c) XXI U.S. Corps.

Sector generally quiet.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

Tac/R reports some rail activity noted at OFFENBURG (W-1686) where 3 trains of 50 box cars each reported moving SE from town at 0930A. 150 box cars observed vic OFFENBURG, 25 just south of town at W-1179, and 100 at APPENWEILLER (W-1893). Rail activity indicated at FREUDENSTADT (W-5085) where 5 locomotives and 50 box cars reported. At FORDACH (R-4509) 6 locomotives observed.

Two missions in RHINE area between STRASBOURG and LAUTERBURG (R-3332) reported no movement seen between 1030A - 1100A. No complete bridge observed vic R-1717 as reported 19 Jan by F/Bs, but two ponton sections noted at each bank at this point. Convoy of 37 M/T, 1/3 of which towed arty pieces, reported moving west vic R-1126 at 1040A.

Only light rail activity on LANDAU (R-2866) - GERMERSHEIM (R-4669) - SPEYER (R-5181) net and road movement scattered and light.

Considerable activity vic of BAERENTHAL where more than 50 M/T in small groups seen moving in all directions in area 3 miles NW, N and NE of town at 1030A. East of BITCHE, 100-125 M/T observed stationary facing north on roads vic Q-8653 at 1050A.

Third Army Tac/R reported 500 plus M/T in general area Q-9289, Q-9380, Q-8278, moving predominately S and SW.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 221800A to 231800A Jan: 83 (including 4 deserters, 2 wounded.) Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 231800A Jan: 133,836. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

b. Weather Forecast.

25 Jan: Broken to overcast low clouds throughout day. Intermittent snow in morning, becoming light in afternoon. Visibility 1/2-1 mile at dawn due to snow and fog, improving to 4-5 miles in afternoon. Wind NW, 10 mph, becoming N to NE 6-8 mph after 2000A. Minimum temperature 23° F.

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26 Jan: Broken clouds throughout day. Light snow showers in Vosges Mountains. Visibility $\frac{1}{4}$ -1 mile before 1000A in fog, improving to 2-4 miles thereafter. Wind northerly, 5-7 mph. Minimum temperature 20° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN, *mm s*
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2.

1 Encl:
Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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Copy No. 26

From: 232400A Jan 45
To : 242400A Jan 45

Ref. No. X-440G-2 REPORT

No. 163

Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
250600A January 1945

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps.21st Pz Div.125th FGR.1st Co. - vic R-071336th VGD.165th VGR.1st Bn. - vic Q-94282. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

During the morning an armor supported counterattack vic KINGERSHEIM (V-7010) was repulsed and later in the day a counter-attack in direction of RICHWILLER (V-6609) was driven back after some initial penetration. An attack vic METERSHOF (V-6710) with armored support was also beaten off and a second attack against RICHWILLER resulted in heavy fighting throughout the period. In vic V-7647 a coordinated infantry and tank attack from three directions forced a withdrawal of advanced friendly elements, and enemy force surrounded in woods vic V-7349 continued to offer strong SA and AW resistance. Determined opposition was met near Chateau de SCHOPPENWIHR vic V-7248, southern part Bois de BROTHLEIBLE (V-7348), BRAUNWALD Woods (V-7448, and in area between bridge site vic V-7750 and Bois de RIEDWIHR (V-7748). A heavy armor supported counterattack was repulsed vic V-7848. Central VOSGES sector and area NE of SELESTAT continued quiet.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

In the RUINE Valley and eastern HARDT Mountains movement continued with small groups of enemy observed at several points along the front and considerable traffic just NE of BISCHWILLER (R-1919) and in the BITCHE (Q-7750) area. Artillery was light on both flanks of this sector as enemy probing action increased, and in some instances patrol activities developed into platoon and company strength attacks in vic BISCHOLTZ (Q-8532), MULHAUSEN (Q-8631) and wooded area Q-9327. Late in evening enemy crossed canal vic R-977263 after short artillery preparation but was driven back after fire fight but remaining elements were still being mopped up at close of period. Fifteen to twenty-five man patrols were active in the HARDT Mountain area and enemy artillery increased slightly late in the day as WILDENGUTH (Q-7838) was subjected to heavy caliber harassing fire. The Army front west of the HARDT Mountains remained quiet with little to report other than normal patrol activity and very light artillery fire.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps reports NENNIG (L-0204) cleared after stiff resistance. No further activity except enemy opposition to attack between SAAR and MOSELLE Rivers.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps sector, SP fire was received vic R-0722 during afternoon and in HAGUENAU (R-0424) at 1420A. One tank firing

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from vic R-065254 knocked out the steeple OP at HAGUENAU. Four tanks were reported R-075119 at 1300A, and two tanks at R-118125 about 1530A. A PW reported 5 tanks and 2 SPs in GAMBESHEIM (R-1111). Two tanks withdrew from vic Q-8434 at 1400A after being taken under artillery fire. Four tanks seen in ROTHBACH (Q-8534) at 0830A and 1130A were later observed in draw at Q-847343. 10-12 enemy tanks were operating vic ROTHBACH and one was believed knocked out. AT gun knocked out 3 tanks vic Q-852345. XV and XXI Corps: Nothing to report.

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps sector enemy artillery activity though still light is increasing gradually. The heaviest concentration reported consisted of 25 rounds, but 5 to 15 rounds were usually fired. The 36th Div sector received the largest amount of shelling, the remainder being about equally divided in each of the other sectors. During the night, the enemy harassed forward elements vic MULHAUSEN (Q-8631), SCHWEIGHAUSEN (R-0024), HAGUENAU, and DISCHWILLER, and interdicted the road center of BRULATH; 12 rounds heavy caliber fell just to the east of this town. DISCHWILLER, the woods vic R-0715, and positions in the WEYERSHEIM (R-0513) area were also shelled during the day with other harassing fires vic HAGUENAU, WILDENGUTH, Q-8429 (interdiction), north of LICHTENBERG and PFAFFENHOFFEN (Q-9027). Shell report bearings and the few locations so far obtained indicate that enemy artillery is moving back into the old areas he occupied during our advance, namely the Camp OBERHOFFEN maneuver area and the ESCHBACH-ENGWILLER region.

On XV Corps front enemy artillery was very quiet during the period and the largest concentration reported was 8 rounds. The area north of ROHRBACH (Q-6549) received the greatest amount of fires reported. Roads, troops, and towns in this area were harassed. The road intersection vic Q-6450 was interdicted around 1540A by 1 round every 10 minutes for a short period.

In XXI Corps sector enemy artillery activity was very light during the period, a total of 13 rounds were reported as falling in the sector. All shelling was of light caliber and harassing fire was placed on forward elements.

(3) Aviation.

One FW-190 observed over HAGUENAU flying west at 1600A was the only e/a reported.

(4) Infantry.

(a) VI U.S. Corps.

Contact was light along 36th Div front with only patrol activity and sporadic artillery fire reported. Tanks were heard vic R-0811 and considerable traffic observed on the GAMBESHEIM - DRUSENHEIM (RL618) road. Activity increased in the 79th Div sector where a strong enemy patrol was repulsed vic R-0822 and 23 vehicles and estimated 200 infantry were taken under artillery fire NE of DISCHWILLER. During the day heavy fire was received from enemy elements dug in along the railroad NW of HAGUENAU and at approximately 2005A, after a short artillery and mortar preparation, an undetermined number of enemy attacked and crossed the canal vic R-977263. They were driven back after a fire fight but remaining elements were still being mopped up at close of period. Enemy probing was aggressive in 103rd Div sector. At 0800A an estimated 100 enemy attacked vic MULHAUSEN (Q-8631). Strong contact continued during day and at end of period 125 enemy were reported in the town. A platoon strength attack supported by mortar fire was repulsed vic BISCHOLTZ (Q-8532) at 0830A. At 0915A an estimated company formed for an attack in woods vic Q-9327. They were dispersed by artillery fire but elements reformed and attacked vic Q-9328 where they were again dispersed by artillery fire. Estimated 150 enemy observed moving from ZINSWILLER (Q-8634) to OFFWILLER (Q-8534) and small groups were seen vic URWILLER (Q-8830), some of them on skis. Fifteen to 25 man patrols were active on the front of the 45th Div where the enemy made several unsuccessful platoon strength efforts apparently to feel out friendly positions and, if possible, to secure PWs. Enemy build up was reported continuing in ROTHBACH (Q-8534).

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- (b) XV U.S. Corps.
Sector generally quiet.
- (c) XXI U.S. Corps.
Sector generally quiet.
- c. Miscellaneous.
 - (1) Movements.

Tac/R's nine missions were restricted by a low, heavy overcast. It was observed, however, that the BITCHE area continues to be the scene of considerable vehicular activity. On the roads within a 6 mile radius N and E of the town and on the roads from PIRLSSENS (Q-9167) to BITCHE there were 75 or more M/T and H/D/V moving generally south at approximately 1600A. Two groups of enemy infantry were observed marching south vic Q-4284.

Ground observation reports heavy traffic both ways SCHIRRHHEIN (R-1222) - DRUSENHEIM road at 1645A. 17 enemy cargo vehicles from R-1420 to SCHIRRHHEIN then west at 1530A. Considerable traffic on road SESSENHEIM (R-1822) to SCHIRRHHEIM (R-1323) to SCHIRRHHEIN at 1400A. Vehicular movement observed on the ZINSWILLER (Q-8935) - BAERENTHAL (Q-8443) road at 2200A.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.


- a. PW Statements.

Several PWs were told that large scale attack on STRASBOURG pending. STRASBOURG should be in German hands not later than 30 Jan to commemorate the 12th anniversary of National Socialist revolution.
- b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 231800A to 241800A Jan: 41 (including 5 deserters, 36 wounded.) Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 241800A Jan: 133,877. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FBTFF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)
- c. Weather Forecast.
 - 26 Jan: Light snow until 0900A. Cloudy sky. Visibility $\frac{1}{2}$ mile until 0900A, improving to 4-5 miles after 1300A. Wind west, 10 mph. Minimum temperature 29° F.
 - 27 Jan: Partly cloudy with light snow showers over Vosges. Visibility 1 mile at dawn, improving to 2-3 miles after 1100A. Wind from NE 5-7 mph. Slightly colder. Minimum temperature 22° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN,
Colonel, G. S. C., 
A. C. of S., G-2.

- 1 Encl:
Annex No. 1, Sketch Map

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G-2 REPORT

From: 242400A Jan 45
 To : 252400A Jan 45

Hq. Seventh Army
 In the Field
 260600A January 1945

No. 164

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.

- a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map
 b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)

(1) New Identifications.

(a) VI U.S. Corps.

21st Pz Div.

192nd PGR.

1st Bn. - vic R-1018

10th SS Pz Div.

Elmts 21st SS PGR.)

22nd SS PGR.) R-0622

Elmts 2nd Bn.)

25th PG Div.

35th PGR.

1st Bn. - vic SCHWEIGHAUSEN (R-0225)

119th PGR.

2nd Bn. vic Q-9627

7th Para Div.

21st Para Regt.

10th Co. - vic Q-9924

47th VG Div.

103rd GR.

1st Bn. - vic Q-9626

104th GR.

1st Bn. - vic Q-9726

36th VG Div.

165th GR.

1st Bn. - vic Q-8729

6th SS Mtn Div.

12th SS Mtn Regt. - vic SCHILLERSDORF (Q-8530)

256th VG Div.

481st GR.

1st Bn. - vic Q-7937

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

17th SS PG Div.

37th SS PGR.

2nd Bn. - vic Q-7353

(2) Organization and Strength.

(a) 256th VG Div.

PW 256th VG Div stated he is recent replacement coming from 361st VG Div and that 361st has left for GERMANY. (Comment: Not unlikely that 361st Div staff left for Germany to be refitted with new Div, and that remnants of old Div being cannibalized by other depleted Divs on our front)

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.

a. General Summary.

(1) First French Army.

Enemy infantry with tank support resisted advances in sector N of COLMAR, with isolated but violent actions taking place. House to house fighting in ROSENKRANZ (V-7247) but HOUSSEN (V-7347) was reported clear after street fighting. Enemy clad in white opposed advance vic V-7448 with SP support. Infantry and flak wagons were encountered vic V-7749, and enemy fire forced forward elements to withdraw vic V-7848 early in period; later a counterattack with armor support was repulsed in this area at V-7949. Strong resistance was met in

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OHNENHEIM Woods (V-8054). In the MULHOUSE sector strong opposition was met vic AMELIE I (V-6310), where two Tiger tanks were reported.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

With regrouping now accomplished the enemy again became aggressive on the eastern portion of the front. 21st Pz Div now identified in old 10th SS Pz Div sector, with latter E of HAGUENAU, and 25th PG Div, 47th VG Div and elements of 7th Para Div all operating in a narrow sector W of HAGUENAU. In the latter area, enemy succeeded in crossing MODER River vic SCHWEIGHAUSEN (Q-9924) and penetrating into OHLUNGEN Woods (Q-9725), but later was being forced back in heavy fighting. Another crossing at R-0623 was initially successful but the bridgehead was later destroyed. Enemy attack at MULHAUSEN (Q-8631) reached SCHILLERSDORF (Q-8530) where a battalion of the 6th SS Mtn Div was then encircled by U.S. troops and was being mopped up in house to house fighting late in the period.

(3) Third U.S. Army.

XX Corps reports enemy driven from BERG (L-0402).

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

In VI Corps sector three tanks were reported at Q-9826 late in afternoon. Unknown number of tanks reported operating in HAGUENAU area. Some tanks were heard at Q-8829 at 1845A. No tank activity was noted in XV Corps zone.

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps sector shelling was about evenly divided in the 79th, 103rd and 36th Div sectors with the 36th Div drawing much less than usual. The heaviest concentration reported consisted of 50 rounds, but most of the others varied between 10-20 rounds. Night harassment rose slightly as towns and positions in the forward area, including LICHTENBERG (Q-8135), ROTHBACH (Q-8434), KURTZENHAUSEN (R-0515), WEITBRUCH (R-0317), DISCHWILLER (R-0918), HAGUENAU, INGWILLER (Q-8130), GRIES (R-0517), and DAUENBORG (Q-9326) were all hit. 50 rounds fell in the WILDENGUTH - REIPERTSWILLER (Q-7937) area at 1025A. About noon and in the afternoon SCHWEIGHAUSEN received a succession of small concentrations. INGWILLER drew 88mm and 170mm interdiction fire during the day. The weight of heavies and other caliber fire was felt in the HAGUENAU area. Shelling reports indicate that 17cm guns are now operating in the DAMBACH and LEMBACH valleys. As yet the enemy attacks in the 103rd Div sector have not been strongly supported by artillery, and it is possible that destruction of prime movers and horses by friendly fire has resulted in partial failure to bring up guns.

On XV Corps front enemy artillery was very quiet during the period. SANRALDE (Q-4844) was shelled from 0315A to 0530A with 12 rounds from a 360mm or larger gun. The area vic Q-7053 was harassed with 10 rounds at 1203A. 8 rounds of 88mm fell in vic Q-7452. 5 rounds of harassing fire fell in GOETZENBRUCH (Q-7442) at 1700A.

(3) Infantry.(a) VI U.S. Corps.

The 36th Div sector remained generally quiet throughout the period and on the right of 79th Div the enemy was reported dug in on the N bank of the MODER River from Camp de ODERHOFFEN (R-0821) to ODERHOFFEN (R-0920). Farther west, however, the enemy made four attempts to cross the MODER during the night under cover of heavy artillery, SA and AW fire. The crossing at R-0623 was forced back over the river during the afternoon, and more than 100 PWs taken. Crossing attempts were repulsed at Q-9925 and Q-9627 but were successful at Q-9726 where a large number of enemy penetrated into OHLUNGEN Woods (Q-9724) and SCHWEIGHAUSEN. Heavy fighting continued throughout the period; late in the day the enemy was falling back in the woods and SCHWEIGHAUSEN was reported clear. In the 103rd Div zone there was close contact at KINDWILLER (Q-9029) which was held by the enemy. At NIEFFERN (Q-8730) approximately 100 cy attacked unsuccessfully in the morning and suffered heavy losses;

C O N F I D E N T I A L

however SA fire continued to be received from the town until it was destroyed by friendly artillery in the afternoon. At 0430A the enemy launched a strong attack vic MULHAUSEN (Q-8631) with heavy MG and SP support and succeeded in reaching SCHILLERSDORF (Q-8430). The town was encircled by U.S. troops and the enemy battalion cut off there was being destroyed in bitter house to house fighting late in the day. Strong resistance continued in the vicinity of MULHAUSEN. 45th Div outpost was forced to withdraw during night by 50-75 enemy who attacked S from Hill 301 (Q-8037). SAEGMUEHL (Q-7937) was entered by U.S. troops without contact but a subsequent enemy attack forced them to withdraw. Only scattered patrol activity occurred on the rest of the division front, although tank traffic was heard on OFFWILLER (Q-8634) - ROTHBACH (Q-8434) road.

(b) XV U.S. Corps.

Counterattack by an estimated platoon vic Q-5955 in the 44th Div sector was repulsed. Otherwise enemy infantry activity was negligible.

c. Miscellaneous.

(1) Movements.

Weather prevented the flying of Tac/R missions but ground sources reported increased vehicular activity vic BITCHE (Q-7850) and train movement vic GEISLAUTERN (Q-3471) from 1715A to 2010A.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. PW Statements.

PW 10th SS Div reports bridge capable carrying tanks across RHINE east of DRUSENHEIM (R-1618).

b. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 241800A to 251800A Jan: 56 (including 21 deserters, 7 wounded.) Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 251800A Jan: 133,933. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FADTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div for period 29 Sept. 1944 to 5 Dec. 1944.)

c. Weather Forecast.

27-28 Jan: Scattered low clouds throughout day, clear at night. Visibility $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 miles at dawn in fog, improving slowly to 6 miles in afternoon. Heavy frost at dawn. Wind NE, 12 mph. Minimum temperature 4° F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
 WILLIAM W. QUINN,
 Colonel, G. S. C.,
 A. C. of S., G-2.

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Annex No. 1, Sketch Map

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From: 252400A Jan 45
To : 262400A Jan 45

Ref. No. X-468G-2 REPORT

Hq. Seventh Army
In the Field
270600A January 1945

No. 165.

Map : GSGS 4249, EUROPE, 1:100,000.

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.a. Enemy front line and forward elements - Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.b. Units in Contact (See Attached Map)(1) New Identifications.(a) VI U.S. Corps2 SS Police Regt.Elmts 3rd Bn. - identified vic R-0712.(b) XV U.S. Corps17 SS P.G. Div.38 SS P.G. Regt.Elmts 2nd Bn - vic Q-6553.19 Inf. Div.Elmts 74 Inf. Regt. - identified vic Q-4962.559 V.G. Div.1127 G. Regt.1st Bn. - vic Q-7349.2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.a. General Summary.(1) First French Army.

In south advance continued inspite of numerous enemy counter-attacks and generally unfavorable weather. CITE AMELIE (V-6310), CITE FERNAND (V-6811), CITE ANNA (V-6911), CITE ELSE (V-6210) cleared of enemy but last mentioned town only after beating off enemy counterattack. At RICHWILLER (V-6609) several counter-attacks have been repulsed with heavy losses being inflicted on enemy. Attack on Hill 286 (V-5911) meeting fairly stiff opposition. To the north, advance was made in face of moderate to heavy enemy resistance and counterattacks by infantry and armor. Advance on JEBSHEIM (V-8147) encountered heavy MG resistance from northeast of town. REIDWIHR (V-7847) was cleared and no contact was reported south and east of town, however, northeast of town heavy enemy pressure forced withdrawal of friendly troops to V-7948. In HOLTZWILR (V-7646) - WICKERSCHWILR (V-7745) area, enemy provided opposition and late in afternoon made two counter-attacks, each in company strength, and each supported by two tanks. Intervention of friendly bombers on HOLTZWILR apparently caused enemy to lose enthusiasm as attack ceased thereafter. Farther west enemy was reported organizing defensive position along ditch between HOUSSEN (V-7347) and ILL river. Northeast of HOUSSEN, enemy counterattack in company strength supported by three tanks was beaten off early in afternoon. Farther north, a strong enemy counterattack was reported in the area southeast of the ILLWALD Forest vic V-8056.

(2) Seventh U.S. Army.

In HAGUENAU area enemy failed to follow up aggressiveness of previous period. 10 SS Pz Div, after its unsuccessful attempt of previous day to cross MODER river east of HAGUENAU, was suspiciously quiet. West of HAGUENAU, MLR was reestablished between SCHWEIGHAUSEN (R-0024) and NEUBOURG (Q-9526) without contact, as elements of 25 PG, 7 Para and 47 VG Divs. retired to north bank of MODER. Farther west, SA fire was exchanged with elements of 36 Div. in MULHAUSEN (Q-8631) - NIEFFERN (Q-8729) area, while elements of 6 SS Mtn Div. were cleared from SCHILLESBACH (Q-8430). Heavy rail activity in KAISERSLAUTERN - LANDSTUHL (Q-8790) area suggests the arrival or intended departure of some sizeable unit. Elsewhere on the Army's front enemy activity was negligible.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L(3) Third U.S. Army.

Enemy in XX Corps sector was quiet except in the HEMNIG (L-0204) - TETTINGEN (L-0402) area. Here, elements of 11 Pz and 416 VG Divs. provided moderate opposition to the attack. SA, mortar and arty fire were encountered while approx 11 tanks were observed but appeared reluctant to become engaged. Unfavorable weather and numerous AT obstacles slowed operations of friendly armor.

b. Operations of Component Elements.(1) Armored Force.

Enemy armor activity during period was negligible with tank and SP sightings being confined to VI Corps sector. Four tanks were taken under arty fire at 1635A as they were proceeding north from HEMMELISHEIM (R-1214) toward DRUSENHEIM (R-1518) and one tank pulling another tank observed moving southeast from HEMMELISHEIM to OFFENDORF (R-1312) at 1640A. Two tanks fired from vic ROTHBACH (Q-8434) during afternoon and movement of one SP reported in ROTHBACH during morning. Two enemy tanks vic Q-897366 taken under fire at 1640A and one Mk VI tank vic Q-968268 was observed during afternoon.

XV Corps had nothing to report.

(2) Artillery.

In VI Corps sector, extremely poor visibility and failure of the enemy's river crossing operations apparently caused a sharp decline in his arty fire during period. Night harassing was very light consisting solely of 4-12 rd concentrations in forward areas. BISCHWILLER (R-0818) received a few light and medium caliber rounds, while SCHWEIGHAUSEN received some intermittent fire from 88's. During the early hours of the morning, UHLWILLER (Q-9524) was hit with 12 rds from two medium guns and again at 0940A 12 rds of 88 mm fire. MORSCHWILLER (Q-9224), and again SCHWEIGHAUSEN, were hit around noon with 6 and 7 rds of light caliber while BISCHWILLER received 23 rds of light and medium caliber fire at close of period.

In XV Corps sector, enemy arty remained relatively inactive during period. A 20 rd concentration fell on road at Q-593567 at 1505A, while area vic Q-579586 received 10 rds at 1530A. Sporadic shelling of 2 to 8 rds at a time fell on 44th Div's. forward elements throughout period.

(3) Aviation.

Enemy air activity during period was negligible with only one JU-88, flying high and east in the SAVERNE area at 1530A, being reported.

(4) Infantry.

Along VI Corps front enemy pressure decreased in center and was negligible on both flanks. During night only scattered patrol contact was reported. During morning, MLR was reestablished between SCHWEIGHAUSEN and NEUBOURG without contact except for light MG fire from north bank of HODER river. Enemy force which had infiltrated into SCHILLERSDORF were cleared out at 1115A with enemy yielding 41 PWs and an estimated 75-100 bodies. Contact was maintained in the MULHAUSEN - NIEFFERN area where exchange of SA fire continued at dark. An enemy troop concentration was reported west of UHLWILLER (Q-8830) and snipers were active in BISCHHOLTZ (Q-8532). Farther east, heavy two-way traffic was observed between OBERHOFFEN (R-0920) and SCHIRRHOFEN (R-1322), and between CAMP DE OBERHOFFEN (R-0821) and SCHIRRHOFEN. Elsewhere the Corps front was quiet.

To the west, the XV Corps reports that enemy on their front remained quiet.

c. Miscellaneous.(1) Movements.

Weather restricted aerial reconnaissance to short period in afternoon between 1500A and 1600A. On VI Corps front some 100 infantrymen were seen in the streets of DRUSENHEIM (R-1518), about 75 of whom were marching east toward the river. 3-4 tanks were observed in the town and one tank and three armored vehicles were observed moving north vic DENGOLSHHEIM (R-1821). There was an apparent convoy of 150 plus vehicles, some stationary and some moving, south-bound from SELTZ (R-2732) toward DRUSENHEIM. Bridge over RHINE river vic DRUSENHEIM was 2/3's intact.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

In HAGUENAU Forest, 8 MT moving north at R-1426 were seen and roads this area appear to have been heavily traveled with pilot gaining impression of much activity. Somewhat farther north, F/B's reported 40 loaded MTs moving south at R-3452 and 100 infantrymen in small groups vic R-3157. There also appeared to be many small groups of infantrymen moving south on secondary roads from LAUTERBOURG and WISSEMBOURG.

Aerial reconnaissance flown at 1530A by Third U.S. Army observed between LANDSTUHL (Q-8790) and KAISERSLAUTERN 20 trains of 50-100 boxcars each. Of these, two had steam up and were facing west, but pilot could not specify in which direction majority were facing. He further reported about 1,000 mixed cars on sidings in this area. The KAISERSLAUTERN M/Y's were reported 2/3's full but no active locomotives were observed. M/Y's at WORMS were 1/2 full and with no active locomotives seen. Farther north, one 200 boxcar train was observed facing north at M-2830.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.a. PWs Taken.

PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army from 251800A Jan to 261800A Jan: 274 (including 10 deserters, 4 wounded). Estimated grand total PWs processed by Seventh U.S. Army as of 261800A Jan: 134,207. (Including 49,150 PWs taken by First French Army, 3,692 PWs taken by FABTF, 379 PWs taken by 1st SSF prior to 15 Sept. 1944, and 3,765 PWs taken by 2nd French Armored Div. for period 29 Sept. '44 to 5 Dec. '44.)

b. Weather Forecast.

28 Jan: Scattered to broken low clouds becoming overcast after 1800A. Snow after 2100A. Visibility 0-1/2 mi at dawn improving to 2-3 mi in afternoon. Wind NE, 6 mph becoming SW 12 mph after 1600A. Min temp 14 degrees F.

29 Jan: Overcast low clouds; snow and rain showers mixed. Visibility 1-2 mi in morning, 5-6 mi in afternoon. Wind SW, to W, 15 mph. Min temp 28 degrees F.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

See G-2 Estimate No. 6, dated 29 December 1944.

William W. Quinn
WILLIAM W. QUINN *NYG*
Colonel, G. S. C.,
A. C. of S., G-2

1 Encl:

Annex No. 1, Sketch Map.

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